

Books or records relating to a collection of information must be retained as long as their contents may become material in the administration of any internal revenue law. Generally, tax returns and tax return information are confidential, as required by 26 U.S.C. 6103.

Request for Comments

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. Comments are invited on: (a) whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and (e) estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information.

Approved: August 19, 1999.

Garrick R. Shear,

IRS Reports Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 99-22252 Filed 8-25-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY

Internal Revenue Service

Retirement of IBM Series/1 in IRS E-Filing

AGENCY: Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

ACTION: Notice of retirement of IBM Series/1 in IRS E-filing.

SUMMARY: This announcement serves as notice that the Internal Revenue Service plans to retire the IBM Series/1 for IRS e-filing of Forms 1040 series, including the stand-alone Electronic Tax Document Forms, 4868 and Form 9465. The effective date for this is October 20, 1999 at the conclusion of the 1999 filing season.

Beginning with 1999 Participants Acceptance Testing System (PATs) in November 1999, software developers and transmitters will transmit test returns to the Austin Service Center (AUSC) and/or the Tennessee Computing Center (TCC) on the Electronic Management System (EMS) Front End Processing Subsystem (FEPS).

Transmitters that would have e-filed returns at the Andover (ANSC) or Ogden Service Centers (OSC) will transmit them to AUSC. Transmitters that would have e-filed returns at the Cincinnati Service Center (CSC) and Memphis Service Center (MSC) will transmit them to TCC. The only difference to the filers is the telephone number they use to transmit returns. The returns will still be owned by the home service center for the taxpayer, either ANSC, AUSC, CSC, MSC, or OSC, so software developers, practitioners, and transmitters will still call the home center for assistance and questions for PATs and production. Each service center will have access to the node that contains their data, and will be able to assist e-filers with any question or problem, including transmission problems.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The EMS has been used at TCC since 1996 and AUSC since 1997. The Trading Partner Interface used in transmitting returns will remain the same. IRS is piloting alternative high-speed protocols, such as TCP/IP and use of ISDN, on the new EMS. The State Retrieval System for CSC will move to TCC and the State Retrieval Systems for ANSC and OSC will move to AUSC.

ADDRESSES: Questions or concerns should be directed to Carolyn E. Davis, Senior Program Analyst, IRS, Electronic Tax Administration, OP:ETA:O:S, 5000 Ellin Road, Room C4-187, Lanham, MD 20706.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Questions or concerns will also be taken over the telephone. Call 202-283-0589 (not a toll-free number) or via email to: carolyn.e.davis@ml1.irs.gov.

Terence H. Lutes,

National Director, Electronic Program Operations, Electronic Tax Administration.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Internal Revenue Service

Notice of Meeting

AGENCY: Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

ACTION: Notice of open meeting of the So.Fla Citizen Advocacy Panel.

SUMMARY: An open meeting of the So.Fla Citizen Advocacy Panel will be held in Sunrise, Fla.

DATES: The meeting will be held Friday, September 10, 1999 and Saturday, September 11, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nancy Ferree at 1-888-912-1227, or 954-423-7973.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. (1988) that an open meeting of the Citizen Advocacy Panel will be held Friday, September 10, 1999 from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm and Saturday, September 11, 1999 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm, in the Citizen Advocacy Panel Office, 7771 W. Oakland Park Blvd #225, Sunrise, Fla. 33351. The public is invited to make comments. Individual comments will be limited to 5 minutes. If you would like to have the CAP consider a written statement, please call 1-888-912-1227 or 954-423-7973, or write Nancy Ferree, CAP Office, 7771 W. Oakland Park Blvd. #225, Sunrise, FL 33351. Due to limited conference space, notification of intent to attend the meeting must be made with Nancy Ferree. Ms. Ferree can be reached at 1-888-912-1227 or 954-423-7973. In accordance with the American's With Disabilities Act, persons with special needs should contact Nancy Ferree at 954-423-7973 by no later than 09/01/99.

The agenda will include the following: various IRS issue updates and reports by the CAP sub-groups.

Note: Last minute changes to the agenda are possible and could prevent effective advance notice.

Dated: August 16, 1999.

Nancy Ferree,

CAP Office Manager.

[FR Doc. 99-22097 Filed 8-25-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Internal Revenue Service

Privacy Act of 1974; Altered System of Records

AGENCY: Internal Revenue Service, Treasury.

ACTION: Proposed alteration of a Privacy Act system of records.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the requirements of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, 5 U.S.C. 552a, the Department of the Treasury gives notice of a major proposed alteration to the Customer Feedback System, (Treasury/IRS 00.003). This proposed alteration is part of the implementation of certain provisions of the Internal Revenue Service Restructuring and Reform Act of 1998, (Pub. L. 105-206, July 22, 1998), in order to achieve the objective of improving IRS customer service.

EFFECTIVE DATES: The proposed alteration will be effective October 5, 1999, unless the IRS receives comments that would result in a contrary determination.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be sent to the National Taxpayer Advocate's Office, (C:TA), 1111 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20004.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kenneth Keller, National Taxpayer Advocate's Office, (202) 622-8808.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Customer Feedback System is maintained by the Internal Revenue Service to meet the reporting requirement of § 1211 of Public Law 104-168, the Taxpayer Bill of Rights 2 (TBOR2), which provides that the Secretary of the Treasury shall submit an annual report to Congress on the misconduct of IRS employees. A database for the records includes allegations about IRS employee misconduct received from taxpayers and their representatives, as well as the disposition of such complaints by managers.

The IRS will conduct a test to alter the Customer Feedback System. Significant modifications of the current system include: (1) The subject matter will be broadened to include taxpayer complaints, problems, compliments and suggestions about IRS systems, processes, and procedures; (2) Information will be collected by IRS employees through their personal contacts with taxpayers, as well as through direct taxpayer input using a survey form; and (3) The system will be used as a basis for controlling and monitoring the Internal Revenue Service's handling of taxpayer issues to ensure that timely and appropriate responses are provided. In accordance with the requirements of the IRS Restructuring and Reform Act of 1998, the Internal Revenue Service will include in its Customer Feedback System records the identification of individual employees who are cited by taxpayers for inappropriate conduct when such allegations do not involve the mandatory discharge provisions of § 1203 of the Act. Most of these changes will be implemented initially on a test basis in four IRS offices (Pittsburgh, Richmond, Fresno and Atlanta) and expanded subsequently to the remaining IRS offices. During this test period, the original records will continue to exist concurrently with the test records for most offices. In the test offices, the new records will be referred to as "Customer Service Records," while in the remaining offices, the original records will continue to be referred to as the

"Customer Feedback System records." For Privacy Act purposes, both kinds of records will continue to fall under the Customer Feedback System of records, IRS/Treasury 00.003.

The IRS published a proposed rule on August 7, 1997, at 62 FR 42443 to exempt the Customer Feedback System pursuant to section (k)(4) of the Act from certain provisions because the records were to be maintained and used solely for statistical purposes. We are withdrawing the proposed rule pursuant to Public Law 105-206, Internal Revenue Service Restructuring and Reform Act, as the records will no longer be used solely for statistical purposes. The document withdrawing the proposed rule is published separately in the **Federal Register**.

The altered system of records report, as required by 5 U.S.C. 552a(r) of the Privacy Act, has been submitted to the Committee on Government Reform of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Governmental Affairs of the Senate, and the Office of Management and Budget, pursuant to Appendix I to OMB Circular A-130, Federal Agency Responsibilities for Maintaining Records About Individuals, dated February 8, 1996. The proposed alterations to Treasury/IRS 00.003—Customer Feedback System are set forth below.

Dated: July 28, 1999.

Shelia Y. McCann,

Deputy Assistant Secretary (Administration).

Treasury/IRS 00.003

SYSTEM NAME:

Customer Feedback System.

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CATEGORIES OF RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM:

Description of Change: Add the following language at the end of the paragraph:

* * * The system will also capture customer feedback about any aspect of IRS operations and the identification of IRS employees about whom allegations of misconduct are made when such allegations do not involve the mandatory discharge provisions of § 1203 of the IRS Restructuring and Reform Act of 1998, Pub. L. 105-206 (July 22, 1998).

AUTHORITY FOR MAINTENANCE OF SYSTEM:

Description of Change: Add the following at the end of the paragraph:

* * * Section 3701 of the IRS Restructuring and Reform Act of 1998 (Pub. L. 105-206, July 22, 1998).

PURPOSE:

Description of change: Replace the current language with the following:

The purpose of this system is to collect a broad range of information about individual taxpayer issues and how they are resolved by the Internal Revenue Service. The collected records will enable the Service to better respond to individual taxpayer issues and to analyze and improve its operations, products and services.

ROUTINE USES OF RECORDS MAINTAINED IN THE SYSTEM INCLUDING CATEGORIES OF USERS AND THE PURPOSES OF SUCH USES:

Description of change: Insert the following language at the beginning of the paragraph:

Disclosure of tax return and return information may only be made as provided by 26 U.S.C. 6103. * * *

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RETRIEVABILITY:

Description of change: Replace the current language with the following:

Documents are stored and retrieved by control numbers; by taxpayer name, taxpayer identification number or person to contact; and by an employee identifier. The control number can be determined by reference to the entries for the taxpayer, taxpayer representative or the IRS employee to whom they relate.

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NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE:

Description of change: Replace the current language with the following:

Individuals wishing to be notified if they are named in this system of records, or gain access to the records maintained in this system, must submit a written request in accordance with instructions appearing at 31 CFR part 1, subpart C, appendix B. Inquiries should be addressed to the office in which the records originate, to the attention of the National Taxpayer Advocate. See Appendix A for addresses of IRS offices.

RECORD ACCESS PROCEDURES:

Description of change: Replace the current language with the following:

See "Notification procedure" above.

CONTESTING RECORD PROCEDURES:

Description of change: Replace the current language with the following:

See "Notification procedure" above.

EXEMPTION CLAIMED FOR THE SYSTEM:

Description of change: Replace the current language with the following:

None.

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