

Department of Justice

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives

Supporting Statement - Information Collection Requirement

1140-0028

INVENTORIES: LICENSED EXPLOSIVES IMPORTERS, MANUFACTURERS,  
DEALERS AND PERMITTEES

A. Justification:

1. Chapter 40 of Title 18, United States Code, was added by Title XI of the Organized Crime Control Act of 1970 (October 15; Public Law 91-452) in reaction to the high level of domestically perpetrated criminal acts involving explosives. Today, the greatest worry is the possibility of terrorism, both domestic and foreign in origin. These records are required under 18 U.S.C. 842 (f), (g), (j), (k), 843(f), and 847, and are established in the manner set forth in 27 CFR 55.121, .122, .123, .124, .125, and .127.

2. These records show the explosive material inventories of licensees and permittees. Inventories are used to determine whether any unlawful diversions of explosive materials have occurred, especially those arising through theft by persons not affiliated with the licensee or permittee. Licensees and permittees are required to take physical inventories when they are: 1) commencing business, 2) changing premises, 3) discontinuing business, or, 4) requested to do so by the ATF District Director (Regulatory Enforcement).

The inventory is taken by the licensee or permittee to establish initial figures from which an audit trail can be developed by ATF field officers during a compliance inspection or criminal investigation. More specifically, inventory figures are used as a business of reconciliation between the physical inventory on hand versus the book inventory maintained by the licensee or permittee. These reconciliations are conducted on an ongoing business pursuant to the explosive inspections and investigations referenced above.

3. This information collection is an inventory of explosive materials taken by the licensee or permittee. The inventory is kept on the business premises. The collection does not involve forms of information technology.

4. The ATF Subject Classification System is used to identify duplication and to ensure that any similar information already available cannot be used or modified for the purpose of this information collection.

5. The collection of this information has no impact on small businesses or other small entities.

6. The less frequent or non-collection of this information would pose a threat to public safety and negatively impact upon the accountability of explosive materials.

7. This recordkeeping requirement is conducted in a manner consistent with 5 CFR 1320.6.

8. The ATF industry liaison was actively involved for the creation of these explosive inventories. A 60-day and 30-day Federal Register notice was published in order to solicit comments from the public for this information collection. No comments were received.

9. No payment or gift is associated with this collection.

10. No confidentiality is assured. These records are maintained at the premises of the licensee or permittee and are not available to members of the public from ATF.

11. Recordkeepers are not required to keep records of a sensitive nature.

12. There are 13,106 respondents. Each respondent responds 2 times. The total annual responses are 26, 212. It is estimated that it takes 2 hours to complete the inventory. The total annual hours for this information collection is 26,212. Licensees and permittees shall keep records on the business premises for 5 years from the date a transaction occurs or until discontinuance of business or operations by the licensee or permittee.

13. There is no annual cost to the respondent for this information collection.

14. There is no cost to ATF as-forms are not published or furnished to the respondents. The individual licensee or permittee develops and maintains these records.

15. There are no program changes or adjustments' associated with this collection.

16. The results of this collection will not be published.

17. ATF does not request approval to not display the expiration date of OMB approval for this collection.

18. There are no exceptions to the certification statement.

B. Collections of Information Employing Statistical Methods

None