

Notice of these Determinations be published in the **Federal Register**.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information, including a list of the exhibit objects, contact Ona M. Hahs, Attorney-Adviser, Office of the Legal Adviser, U.S. Department of State (telephone: 202-632-6473). The mailing address is U.S. Department of State, SA-5, L/PD, Fifth Floor (Suite 5H03), Washington, DC 20522-0505.

Dated: December 12, 2012.

J. Adam Erel,

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, Department of State.

[FR Doc. 2012-30683 Filed 12-19-12; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

[Docket No. FMCSA-2012-0209]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Reinstatement With Change of a Currently-Approved Information Collection Request: Information Technology Services Survey Portal Customer Satisfaction Assessment (Formerly COMPASS Portal Consumer Satisfaction Assessment)

AGENCY: Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, FMCSA announces its plan to submit the Information Collection Request (ICR) described below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval and invite public comment. The collection involves the assessment of FMCSA's strategic decision to integrate its Information Technology (IT) with its business processes using portal technology to consolidate its systems and databases through the FMCSA Information Technology Services Survey modernization initiative. The information to be collected will be used to assess the satisfaction of Federal, State, and industry customers with the FMCSA Information Technology Services Survey Portal. The "COMPASS Portal Customer Satisfaction Assessment," ICR is being changed to the "Information Technology Services Survey Portal Customer Satisfaction Assessment," to reflect the need for a broader term than "COMPASS" for the portal.

DATES: Please send your comments by January 22, 2013. OMB must receive your comments by this date in order to act on the ICR.

ADDRESSES: All comments should reference Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) Docket Number FMCSA-2012-0209. Interested persons are invited to submit written comments on the proposed information collection to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget. Comments should be addressed to the attention of the Desk Officer, Department of Transportation/Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, and sent via electronic mail to oir_submission@omb.eop.gov, or faxed to (202) 395-6974, or mailed to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Docket Library, Room 10102, 725 17th Street NW., Washington, DC 20503.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Katherine Sinrud, Department of Transportation, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, West Building 6th Floor, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590. Telephone: 202-366-3843; email: katherine.sinrud@dot.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Information Technology Services Survey Portal Customer Satisfaction Assessment.

OMB Control Number: 2126-0042.

Type of Request: Revision of a currently-approved information collection request.

Respondents: Federal, State, and industry customers/users.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 3,392.

Estimated Time per Response: Five (5) minutes.

Expiration Date: 11/30/2012.

Frequency of Response: 4 times per year.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 283 hours [91 hours (273 industry user respondents × 5 minutes/60 minutes to complete survey × 4 times per year) + 192 hours (575 Federal and State government respondents × 5 minutes/60 minutes to complete survey × 4 times per year) = 283].

Background

Title II, section 207 of the E-Government Act of 2002 requires Government agencies to improve the methods by which Government information, including information on the Internet, is organized, preserved, and made accessible to the public. To meet this goal, FMCSA plans to provide

a survey on the FMCSA Portal, allowing users to assess its functionality. This functionality includes the capability for Federal, State, and industry users to access the Agency's existing safety IT systems with a single set of credentials and have easy access to safety data about the companies that do business with FMCSA. The IT program will also focus on improving the accuracy of data to help ensure information, such as carrier name and address, is valid and reliable.

FMCSA's legacy information systems are currently operational. However, having this many stand-alone systems has led to data quality concerns, a need for excessive identifications (IDs) and passwords, and significant operational and maintenance costs. Integrating our information technologies with our business processes will in turn, improve our operations considerably, particularly in terms of data quality, ease of use, and reduction of maintenance costs.

In early 2007, FMCSA's IT program launched a series of releases of a new FMCSA Portal to its Federal, State and Industry customers. Over the coming years, more than 15 releases are planned. These releases will use portal technology to fuse and provide numerous services and functions via a single user interface and provide tailored services that seek to meet the needs of specific constituencies within our customer universe.

The FMCSA Information Technology Services Survey Portal will entail considerable expenditure of Federal Government dollars over the years and will fundamentally impact the nature of the relationship between the Agency and its Federal, State, and industry customers. Consequently, the Agency intends to conduct regular and ongoing assessments of customer satisfaction with the Information Technology Services Survey.

The primary purposes of this assessment are to:

- Determine the extent to which the FMCSA Portal functionality continues to meet the needs of Agency customers;
- Identify and prioritize additional modifications; and
- Determine the extent that the FMCSA Portal has impacted FMCSA's relationships with its main customer groups.

The assessment will address:

- Overall customer satisfaction;
- Customer satisfaction against specific items;
- Performance of systems integrator against agreed objectives;
- Desired adjustments and modifications to systems;

- Demonstrated value of investment to FMCSA and DOT;
- Items about the FMCSA Portal that customers like best;
- Customer ideas for making the FMCSA Portal better.

Public Comments Invited: You are asked to comment on any aspect of this information collection, including: (1) Whether the proposed collection is necessary for the FMCSA to perform its functions; (2) the accuracy of the estimated burden; (3) ways for the FMCSA to enhance the quality, usefulness, and clarity of the collected information; and (4) ways that the burden could be minimized without reducing the quality of the collected information.

Issued on: December 10, 2012.

Kelly Leone,

Associate Administrator for Office of Research and Information Technology.

[FR Doc. 2012-30638 Filed 12-19-12; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

[Docket No. FMCSA-2007-27748]

Entry-Level Driver Training; Public Listening Session

AGENCY: Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of public listening session.

SUMMARY: FMCSA announces that it will hold a public listening session to solicit ideas and information on the issue of entry-level training for drivers of commercial motor vehicles (CMVs). Specifically, the Agency solicits input on factors, issues, and data it should consider in anticipation of a rulemaking to implement the entry-level driver training (ELDT) provisions in the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act, Public Law 112-141 (MAP-21). Wherever possible, the Agency requests that participants indicate whether the ideas identified are supported by research and data analyses, including cost/benefit considerations. The session, which will be held at the American Bus Association (ABA) Marketplace meeting in Charlotte, NC, will allow interested persons to present comments and relevant new research on ELDT. All comments will be transcribed and placed in the docket referenced above for FMCSA's consideration. The entire day's proceedings will be webcast.

DATES: The listening session will be held on Monday, January 7, 2013, from 9:00–11:00 a.m. and from 2:00–4:00 p.m., ET. If all interested in-person participants have had an opportunity to comment, the session may conclude earlier.

ADDRESSES: The listening session will be held at the Charlotte Convention Center, 501 S. College Street, Charlotte, NC 28202, (704) 339-6000, in Room 207 A and B. In addition to attending the session in person, the Agency offers several ways to provide comments, as enumerated below.

Internet Address for Live Webcast. FMCSA will post specific information on how to participate via the Internet on the FMCSA Web site at www.fmcsa.dot.gov/rules-regulations/topics/hos/HOS-Listening-Sessions.aspx.

You may submit comments bearing the Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) Docket ID FMCSA-2007-27748 using any of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* Go to www.regulations.gov. Follow the on-line instructions for submitting comments.
- *Mail:* Docket Management Facility; U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, Washington, DC 20590-0001.
- *Hand Delivery or Courier:* West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., ET, Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays.
- *Fax:* 1-202-493-2251.

Each submission must include the Agency name and the docket number for this notice. Note that DOT posts all comments received, without change, to www.regulations.gov, including any personal information included in a comment. Please see the *Privacy Act* heading below.

Docket: For access to the docket to read background documents or comments, go to www.regulations.gov at any time or visit Room W12-140 on the ground level of the West Building, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., ET, Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The on-line Federal document management system is available 24 hours each day, 365 days each year. If you would like acknowledgment that we received your comments, please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope or postcard or print the acknowledgement page that appears after submitting comments on-line.

Privacy Act: Anyone may search the electronic form of all comments

received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or of the person signing the comment, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). You may review DOT's Privacy Act Statement for the Federal Docket Management System published in the **Federal Register** on January 17, 2008 (73 FR 3316), or you may visit <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2008/pdf/E8-785.pdf>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information concerning the listening session or the live webcast, please contact Ms. Shannon L. Watson, Senior Advisor for Policy, FMCSA, (202) 385-2395.

If you need sign language assistance to participate in this HOS listening session, contact Ms. Watson by Wednesday, January 2, 2013, to allow us to arrange for such services. FMCSA cannot guarantee that interpreter services requested on short notice will be provided.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

In the early 1980s, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Office of Motor Carriers, predecessor to the FMCSA, determined that there was a need for technical guidance in the area of truck driver training. Research showed that few driver training institutions offered a structured curriculum or a standardized training program for any type of CMV driver. A 1995 study entitled "Assessing the Adequacy of Commercial Motor Vehicle Driver Training" (the Adequacy Report) concluded, among other things, that effective ELDT needs to include behind-the-wheel (BTW) instruction on how to operate a heavy vehicle.

In 2004, FMCSA implemented a training rule that focused on areas unrelated to the hands-on operation of a CMV, relying instead on the commercial driver's license (CDL) knowledge and skills tests to encourage training in the operation of CMVs. These current training regulations cover four areas: (1) Driver qualifications; (2) hours of service limitations; (3) wellness; and (4) whistleblower protection. In 2005, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit held that the Agency was arbitrary and capricious in promulgating the 2004 rule because it ignored the BTW training component aspect of the 1995 Adequacy Report.

In 2007, FMCSA published a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) seeking public comment on enhanced ELDT requirements (72 FR 73226). In