

docket at the above address both before and after that date. To the extent possible, comments filed after the closing date will also be considered. Notice of final action on the petition will be published in the **Federal Register** pursuant to the authority indicated below.

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 30141(a)(1)(A) and (b)(1); 49 CFR 593.8; delegations of authority at 49 CFR 1.50 and 501.8.

Claude H. Harris,
Director, Office of Vehicle Safety Compliance.
[FR Doc. 05-5649 Filed 3-22-05; 8:45 am]
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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

[Docket No. NHTSA-2005-20686]

Notice of Receipt of Petition for Decision That Nonconforming 1989 Volkswagen Golf Rallye Passenger Cars Are Eligible for Importation

AGENCY: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of receipt of petition for decision that nonconforming passenger cars are eligible for importation.

SUMMARY: This document announces receipt by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a petition for a decision that 1989 Volkswagen Golf Rallye passenger cars that were not originally manufactured to comply with all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards are eligible for importation into the United States because (1) they are substantially similar to vehicles that were originally manufactured for sale in the United States and that were certified by their manufacturer as complying with the safety standards, and (2) they are capable of being readily altered to conform to the standards.

DATES: The closing date for comments on the petition is April 22, 2005.

ADDRESSES: Comments should refer to the docket number and notice number, and be submitted to: Docket Management, Room PL-401, 400 Seventh St., SW., Washington, DC 20590. (Docket hours are from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.) Anyone is able to search the electronic form of all comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or signing the comment, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). You may review DOT's complete Privacy Act Statement in the **Federal Register**

published on April 11, 2000 (Volume 65, Number 70; Pages 19477-78), or you may visit <http://dms.dot.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Coleman Sachs, Office of Vehicle Safety Compliance, NHTSA (202) 366-3151.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Under 49 U.S.C. 30141(a)(1)(A), a motor vehicle that was not originally manufactured to conform to all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards shall be refused admission into the United States unless NHTSA has decided that the motor vehicle is substantially similar to a motor vehicle originally manufactured for importation into and sale in the United States, certified under 49 U.S.C. 30115, and of the same model year as the model of the motor vehicle to be compared, and is capable of being readily altered to conform to all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

Petitions for eligibility decisions may be submitted by either manufacturers or importers who have registered with NHTSA pursuant to 49 CFR part 592. As specified in 49 CFR 593.7, NHTSA publishes notice in the **Federal Register** of each petition that it receives, and affords interested persons an opportunity to comment on the petition. At the close of the comment period, NHTSA decides, on the basis of the petition and any comments that it has received, whether the vehicle is eligible for importation. The agency then publishes this decision in the **Federal Register**.

US SPECS of Aberdeen, Maryland (Registered Importer 03-321) has petitioned NHTSA to decide whether nonconforming 1989 Volkswagen Golf Rallye passenger cars are eligible for importation into the United States. The vehicles which US SPECS believes are substantially similar are 1989 Volkswagen Golf passenger cars that were manufactured for sale in the United States and certified by their manufacturer as conforming to all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

The petitioner claims that it carefully compared non-U.S. certified 1989 Volkswagen Golf Rallye passenger cars to their U.S.-certified counterparts, and found the vehicles to be substantially similar with respect to compliance with most Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

US SPECS submitted information with its petition intended to demonstrate that non-U.S. certified 1989 Volkswagen Golf Rallye passenger cars, as originally manufactured, conform to

many Federal motor vehicle safety standards in the same manner as their U.S. certified counterparts, or are capable of being readily altered to conform to those standards.

Specifically, the petitioner claims that non-U.S. certified 1989 Volkswagen Golf Rallye passenger cars are identical to their U.S. certified counterparts with respect to compliance with Standard Nos. 102 *Transmission Shift Lever Sequence, Starter Interlock, and Transmission Braking Effect*, 103 *Windshield Defrosting and Defogging Systems*, 104 *Windshield Wiping and Washing Systems*, 105 *Hydraulic Brake Systems*, 106 *Brake Hoses*, 107 *Reflecting Surfaces*, 109 *New Pneumatic Tires*, 112 *HeadLamp Concealment Devices*, 113 *Hood Latch System*, 116 *Motor Vehicle Brake Fluids*, 124 *Accelerator Control Systems*, 201 *Occupant Protection in Interior Impact*, 202 *Head Restraints*, 204 *Steering Control Rearward Displacement*, 205 *Glazing Materials*, 206 *Door Locks and Door Retention Components*, 207 *Seating Systems*, 211 *Wheel Nuts, Wheel Discs and Hub Caps*, 212 *Windshield Mounting*, 216 *Roof Crush Resistance*, 219 *Windshield Zone Intrusion*, and 302 *Flammability of Interior Materials*.

The petitioner also contends that the vehicles are capable of being readily altered to meet the following standards, in the manner indicated:

Standard No. 101 *Controls and Displays*: (a) Installation of an indicator lamp lens cover inscribed with the word "brake" in the instrument cluster in place of the one inscribed with the international ECE warning symbol; and (b) replacement or conversion of the speedometer to read in miles per hour.

Standard No. 108 *Lamps, Reflective Devices and Associated Equipment*: Inspection of all vehicles and installation, on vehicles that are not already so equipped, of U.S.-model: (a) Headlamp assemblies; (b) front side marker lamps; (c) taillamp assemblies that incorporate rear side marker lamps; (d) rear high mounted stop lamp; and (e) front and rear side reflex reflectors.

Standard No. 110 *Tire Selection and Rims*: Installation of a tire information placard.

Standard No. 111 *Rearview Mirrors*: Installation of a U.S.-model passenger side rearview mirror, or inscription of the required warning statement on the face of that mirror.

Standard No. 114 *Theft Protection*: Installation a supplemental warning buzzer to meet the requirements of this standard.

Standard No. 115 *Vehicle Identification*: Installation of a vehicle identification plate near the left

windshield post to meet the requirements of this standard.

Standard No. 118 *Power-Operated Window, Partition, and Roof Panel Systems*: Inspection of all vehicles and rewiring the vehicle's systems, as required, to ensure compliance with the requirements of the standard.

Standard No. 208 *Occupant Crash Protection*: Installation, on vehicles that are not already so equipped, of: (a) Seat belt warning buzzer and warning light systems wired to the seat belt latch; (b) U.S.-model knee bolsters; and (c) U.S.-model door-anchored automatic shoulder belts at front outboard seating positions on vehicles manufactured on or after September 1, 1989.

The petitioner also states that the vehicles are equipped with combination lap and shoulder belts at the outboard front and seating positions. These seat belts are self-tensioning and capable of being released by means of a single red push button.

Standard No. 209 *Seat Belt Assemblies*: Inspection of all vehicles and installation of U.S.-model seat belt assemblies on vehicles that are not already so equipped.

Standard No. 210 *Seat Belt Assembly Anchorages*: Inspection of all vehicles and replacement of any non-U.S.-model seat belt anchorages with U.S.-model components on vehicles that are not already so equipped.

Standard No. 214 *Side Impact Protection*: Inspection of all vehicles and installation of U.S.-model door reinforcements on vehicles that are not already so equipped.

Standard No. 301 *Fuel System Integrity*: Inspection of all vehicles and installation of U.S.-model fuel system components on vehicles that are not already so equipped.

In addition, inspection of all vehicles and installation of U.S.-model bumper and bumper support structure components, on vehicles that are not already so equipped, to ensure compliance with the requirements of the Bumper Standard found in 49 CFR part 581.

Interested persons are invited to submit comments on the petition described above. Comments should refer to the docket number and be submitted to: Docket Management, Room PL-401, 400 Seventh St., SW., Washington, DC 20590. (Docket hours are from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.) It is requested but not required that 10 copies be submitted.

All comments received before the close of business on the closing date indicated above will be considered, and will be available for examination in the docket at the above address both before and after that date. To the extent

possible, comments filed after the closing date will also be considered. Notice of final action on the petition will be published in the **Federal Register** pursuant to the authority indicated below.

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 30141(a)(1)(A) and (b)(1); 49 CFR 593.8; delegations of authority at 49 CFR 1.50 and 501.8.

Claude H. Harris,
Director, Office of Vehicle Safety Compliance.
[FR Doc. 05-5762 Filed 3-22-05; 8:45 am]
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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Ex Parte No. 290 (Sub-No. 5) (2005-2)]

Quarterly Rail Cost Adjustment Factor

AGENCY: Surface Transportation Board.

ACTION: Approval of rail cost adjustment factor.

SUMMARY: The Board has approved the second quarter 2005 rail cost adjustment factor (RCAF) and cost index filed by the Association of American Railroads. The second quarter 2005 RCAF (Unadjusted) is 1.149. The second quarter 2005 RCAF (Adjusted) is 0.563. The second quarter 2005 RCAF-5 is 0.537.

DATES: *Effective Date:* April 1, 2005.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mac Frampton, (202) 565-1541. [Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) for the hearing impaired: 1-800-877-8339.]

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Additional information is contained in the Board's decision, which is available on our Web site <http://www.stb.dot.gov>. To purchase a copy of the full decision, write to, e-mail or call the Board's contractor, ASAP Document Solutions; 9332 Annapolis Rd., Suite 103, Lanham, MD 20706; e-mail asapdc@verizon.net; phone (202) 306-4004. [Assistance for the hearing impaired is available through FIRS: 1-800-877-8339.]

This action will not significantly affect either the quality of the human environment or energy conservation.

Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 605(b), we conclude that our action will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities within the meaning of the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

Decided: March 17, 2005.

By the Board, Chairman Nober, Vice Chairman Buttrey, and Commissioner Mulvey.

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 05-5740 Filed 3-22-05; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Docket No. AB-771X]

Mount Vernon Terminal Railway Company L.L.C.—Abandonment Exemption-in Skagit County, WA

Mount Vernon Terminal Railway Company L.L.C. (MVT) has filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1152 Subpart F—*Exempt Abandonments* to abandon and discontinue service on the southern portion of its line of railroad between milepost 0.369 and milepost 1.172, in the City of Mount Vernon, in Skagit County, WA, a distance of 4,240 feet. The line traverses United States Postal Service Zip Code 98273.

MVT has certified that: (1) No local traffic has moved over the line for at least 2 years; (2) there is no overhead traffic to be rerouted over other lines; (3) no formal complaint filed by a user of rail service on the line (or by a state or local government entity acting on behalf of such user) regarding cessation of service over the line either is pending with the Surface Transportation Board or with any U.S. District Court or has been decided in favor of complainant within the 2-year period; and (4) the requirements at 49 CFR 1105.7 (environmental reports), 49 CFR 1105.8 (historic reports), 49 CFR 1105.11 (transmittal letter), 49 CFR 1105.12 (newspaper publication), and 49 CFR 1152.50(d)(1) (notice to governmental agencies) have been met.

As a condition to this exemption, any employee adversely affected by the abandonment shall be protected under *Oregon Short Line R. Co.—Abandonment—Goshen*, 360 I.C.C. 91 (1979). To address whether this condition adequately protects affected employees, a petition for partial revocation under 49 U.S.C. 10502(d) must be filed.

Provided no formal expression of intent to file an offer of financial assistance (OFA) has been received, this exemption will be effective on April 22, 2005, unless stayed pending reconsideration. Petitions to stay that do not involve environmental issues,¹

¹ The Board will grant a stay if an informed decision on environmental issues (whether raised