

interstate commerce as safely as he/she has been performing in intrastate commerce. Consequently, FMCSA finds that exempting these applicants from the vision requirement in 49 CFR 391.41(b)(10) is likely to achieve a level of safety equal to that existing without the exemption. For this reason, the Agency is granting the exemptions for the 2-year period allowed by 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315 to the 24 applicants listed in the notice of December 10, 2014 (79 FR 73397).

We recognize that the vision of an applicant may change and affect his/her ability to operate a CMV as safely as in the past. As a condition of the exemption, therefore, FMCSA will impose requirements on the 24 individuals consistent with the grandfathering provisions applied to drivers who participated in the Agency's vision waiver program.

Those requirements are found at 49 CFR 391.64(b) and include the following: (1) That each individual be physically examined every year (a) by an ophthalmologist or optometrist who attests that the vision in the better eye continues to meet the requirement in 49 CFR 391.41(b)(10) and (b) by a medical examiner who attests that the individual is otherwise physically qualified under 49 CFR 391.41; (2) that each individual provide a copy of the ophthalmologist's or optometrist's report to the medical examiner at the time of the annual medical examination; and (3) that each individual provide a copy of the annual medical certification to the employer for retention in the driver's qualification file, or keep a copy in his/her driver's qualification file if he/she is self-employed. The driver must have a copy of the certification when driving, for presentation to a duly authorized Federal, State, or local enforcement official.

#### V. Discussion of Comments

FMCSA received no comments in this proceeding.

#### IV. Conclusion

Based upon its evaluation of the 24 exemption applications, FMCSA exempts the following drivers from the vision requirement in 49 CFR 391.41(b)(10), subject to the requirements cited above (49 CFR 391.64(b)):

Michael L. Boersma (ND)  
Marc D. Butler (IL)  
Roger P. Dittrich (IL)  
Ralph V. Graven (OR)  
Dennis R. Gear (SD)  
Michael D. Halferty (IA)  
Eric C. Hammer (MO)  
Thomas F. Hannon (RI)

Robert K. Ipock (NC)  
Kennard D. Julien (WA)  
Peter M. Kirby (NJ)  
William D. Koiner (TX)  
Jesse L. Lichtenberger (PA)  
David J. Nocton (MN)  
Darren W. Pruett (TX)  
Frederick E. Schaub (IA)  
Michael R. Seldomridge (FL)  
Michael G. Somma (NY)  
Mark J. Stanley (CA)  
Jason E. Thomas (ND)  
Michael K. Tooodle (NC)  
Troy W. Weaver (PA)  
Diane L. Wedeband (IA)  
Eddie L. Wilkins (VA)

In accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315, each exemption will be valid for 2 years unless revoked earlier by FMCSA. The exemption will be revoked if: (1) The person fails to comply with the terms and conditions of the exemption; (2) the exemption has resulted in a lower level of safety than was maintained before it was granted; or (3) continuation of the exemption would not be consistent with the goals and objectives of 49 U.S.C. 31136 and 31315.

If the exemption is still effective at the end of the 2-year period, the person may apply to FMCSA for a renewal under procedures in effect at that time.

Dated: February 9, 2015.

**Larry W. Minor,**

*Associate Administrator for Policy.*

[FR Doc. 2015-03240 Filed 2-19-15; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-EX-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration

**[Docket No. PHMSA-2015-0014, Notice No. 15-4]**

### Research and Development Program Forum

**AGENCY:** Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** This notice is to advise interested persons that PHMSA will host a Research and Development Forum on Thursday, April 16, 2015, in Washington, DC. PHMSA will use the forum to present the results of recently completed research projects and to discuss current and future research projects. PHMSA will also be soliciting comments on new research projects which may be considered for inclusion in its strategic plan.

**DATES:** *Time and Location:* The forum will be held at the DOT Headquarters,

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., West Building, Conference Center—Oklahoma City Room, Washington, DC 20590 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. EST.

**Advanced Meeting Registration:** The DOT ask that attendees pre-register for the forum by completing the form at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/G623RL5>. Attendees may use the survey monkey form to pre-register for the forum. Failure to pre-register may delay access to the DOT Headquarters building. If participants are attending in person, early arrival is advised to allow time for security checks necessary to obtain access to the building.

Conference call-in and "live meeting" capability will be provided for the meeting. Specific information on call-in and live meeting access will be posted when available at <http://phmsa.dot.gov/hazmat>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Richard Boyle, Office of Hazardous Materials Safety, Department of Transportation, Washington, DC 20590; (202) 366-4545.

**Supplementary Information on the PHMSA Meeting:** The primary purpose of this meeting is to present the results of recently completed actions and to seek comments relative to potential new research projects which may be considered for inclusion in future work. PHMSA will consider comments received for proposed list of new projects identified in the draft agenda. The meeting agenda and event information may be obtained from PHMSA's Web site at <http://phmhqnas027vg.ad.dot.gov/about/calendar>.

Topics on the agenda for the Research and Development Forum include:

- Short-Term Projects (Funded)
  - Hazardous Materials Automated Cargo Communications for Efficient and Safe Shipments (HM-ACCESS)
  - Lithium Batteries
- Mid-Term Projects (Funding Now)
  - Risks Associated with Chained/Unchained Fireworks
  - Incident Investigation: Food Trucks; Oxygen Cylinders
  - Reactivity of Toxic Inhalation Hazard (TIH) material
  - Classification of Crude Oil
  - Service Life Extension of Composite Cylinders
- Long-Term Projects (Planning Funding) potential projects include:
  - Emerging Packaging and Transport Risks
  - Risk Management Framework
  - Crude Oil Classification, Packaging and Transport
  - Bulk Transport of LNG

○ Design and Testing of Composite Overwrapped Cylinders

**Magdy El-Sibaie,**  
Associate Administrator for Hazardous Materials Safety.

[FR Doc. 2015-03488 Filed 2-19-15; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-60-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration

#### Actions on Special Permit Applications

**AGENCY:** Office of Hazardous Materials Safety, Pipeline And Hazardous

Materials Safety Administration, PHMSA, DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of actions on special permit applications.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the procedures governing the application for, and the processing of, special permits from the Department of Transportation's Hazardous Material Regulations (49 CFR part 107, Subpart B), notice is hereby given of the actions on special permits applications in (October to October 2014). The mode of transportation involved are identified by a number in the "Nature of Application" portion of the table below

as follows: 1—Motor vehicle, 2—Rail freight, 3—Cargo vessel, 4—Cargo aircraft only, 5—Passenger-carrying aircraft. Application numbers prefixed by the letters EE represent applications for Emergency Special Permits. It should be noted that some of the sections cited were those in effect at the time certain special permits were issued.

Issued in Washington, DC, on February 3, 2015.

**Donald Burger,**  
Chief, Special Permits and Approvals Branch.

| S.P. No.                                   | Applicant   | Regulation(s)   | Nature of special permit thereof  |
|--|---|---|---|
| <b>MODIFICATION SPECIAL PERMIT GRANTED</b> |   |   |   |
| 9847-M .....                               | FIBA Technologies, Inc. (FIBA) Millbury, MA.                  | 49 CFR 180.209(a), 180.205(c), (f), (g) and (i), 173.302a(b)(2), (3), (4) and (5), and 180.213. | To modify the special permit so that alternative certifications may be authorized for personnel responsible for performing cylinder retesting.  |
| 12661-M .....                              | United Parcel Service, Inc. Atlanta, GA.                      | 49 CFR 172.202, 172.203(c), (k) and (m), 172.301, 172.400, and 172.302(c).                      | To modify the special permit to authorize Division 6.2 materials.   |
| 15985-M .....                              | Space Exploration Technologies Corp. (Space X) Hawthorne, CA. | 49 CFR part 172 and 173 .....   | To modify the special permit to authorize the transportation of hazardous materials by cargo vessel.  |
| <b>NEW SPECIAL PERMIT GRANTED</b>          |   |   |   |
| 16039-N .....                              | UTLX Manufacturing LLC Alexandria, LA.                        | 49 CFR 173.314(d) .....   | To authorize the manufacture, marking, sale and use of non-DOT specification tank cars for the transportation in commerce of anhydrous ammonia. (mode 2)  |
| 16137-N .....                              | Diversified Laboratory Repair Gaithersburg, MD.               | 49 CFR 49 CFR 173.196 .....   | To authorize the transportation in commerce of certain infectious substances in special packagings (freezers). (mode 1)   |
| 16118-N .....                              | Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc. Torrance, CA.                | 49 CFR 173.301(a)(1) .....  | To authorize the transportation in commerce of Hydrogen, compressed in non-DOT specification pressure containers. (modes 1, 2, 3, 4)  |
| 16191-N .....                              | Solvay Fluorides LLC Houston, TX.                             | 49 CFR 173.205 .....  | To authorize the transportation in commerce of Iodine Pentafluoride in a non-DOT specification welded, steel non-bulk packaging designed and constructed in accordance with Section VIII Division 1 of the ASME Code. (modes 1, 2, 3)   |
| 16307-N .....                              | Croman Corporation White City, OR.                            | 49 CFR 172.101 Hazardous Materials Table Columns (8C) and (9B), 173.242, 175.310.               | To authorize the transportation in commerce of certain Class 3 hazardous materials contained in non-DOT specification packaging of up to 500 gallon capacity by 14 CFR part 133 Rotorcraft External Load Operations transporting Class 3 hazardous materials attached to or suspended from a cargo aircraft when other means of transportation is not practicable. (mode 4)           |
| 16188-N .....                              | UTLX Manufacturing LLC Alexandria, LA.                        | 49 CFR 179.100-4 and 179.100-12(b).   | To authorize the manufacture, marking, sale and use of DOT 120J100W and 120J200W tank cars for transportation of Class 3 flammable and combustible liquids. (mode 2)  |
| <b>EMERGENCY SPECIAL PERMIT GRANTED</b>    |   |   |   |
| 10427-M .....                              | Astrotech Space Operations LLC Titusville, FL.                | 49 CFR 173.61(a), 173.301(g), 173.302(a), 173.336, and 177.848(d).                              | To modify the special permit to authorize additional launch vehicles and increase the amount of Anhydrous ammonia to 120 pounds. (model 1)  |
| 16273-N .....                              | Lohman Helicopter, LLC. Kendrick, ID.                         | 49 CFR 172.101 Table Column (9B), 172.200, 172.204(c)(3), 172.300, 173.27(b)(2), 175.75, 178.   | To authorize the transportation in commerce of certain hazardous materials by 14 CFR part 133 Rotorcraft External Load Operations transporting hazardous materials attached to or suspended from an aircraft, in remote areas of the US only, without being subject to hazard communication requirements, quantity limitations and certain loading and stowage requirements. (mode 4) |