Regulations, applies for a certificate of public convenience and necessity authorizing Reliant to conduct foreign charter air transportation of property and mail between points in the United States and any point(s) outside the United States beginning on or about September 1, 1998.

Docket Number: OST–98–3900.

Date Filed: June 2, 1998.

Due Date for Answers, Conforming Applications, or Motions to Modify Scope: June 30, 1998.

Description: Application of Korean Air Lines Co., Ltd. pursuant to 49 U.S.C. Section 41301 and Subpart Q of the Regulations, applies for an amendment to its foreign air carrier permit to engage in the foreign air transportation between any point or points behind the Republic of Korea and any point or points in the Republic of Korea, via any intermediate point or points, and any point or points in the United States, and beyond the United States to any point or points, with full traffic rights. KAL also requests that the amended permit authorize KAL to engage in charter foreign air transportation pursuant to, and with all other rights available to KAL under, the 1998 Agreement.

Dorothy W. Walker,

Federal Register Liaison.

[FR Doc. 98–15846 Filed 6–12–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–62–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

[Docket No. NHTSA 98–3791]

New Flyer of America, Inc.; Grant of Application for Decision of Inconsequential Noncompliance

New Flyer of America, Inc., of Crookston, Minnesota, has determined that 115 buses failed to comply with 49 CFR 571.217, Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) No. 217, ''Bus Emergency Exits and Window Retention and Release,'' and has filed an appropriate report pursuant to 49 CFR Part 573, ''Defect and Noncompliance Reports.'' New Flyer petitioned the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) to be exempted from the notification and remedy requirements of 49 U.S.C. Chapter 301—''Motor Vehicle Safety'' on the basis that the noncompliance is inconsequential to motor vehicle safety.

Notice of receipt of the application was published, with a 30-day comment period, on October 23, 1997, in the **Federal Register** (62 FR 55303). NHTSA received no comments on this application during the 30-day comment period.

FMVSS No. 217, Paragraph S5.2.2.1 requires that buses other than school buses provide an emergency exit area, in total square centimeters, of at least 432 times the number of designated seating positions on the bus. It requires at least that 40 percent of the emergency exit area be distributed on each side of the bus. It also limits the amount of area to 3,458 square centimeters that can be credited for an emergency exit, regardless of exit area.

During the 1995–1997-model years, New Flyer produced 115 transit buses, models D35LF (Diesel 35 ft Low Floor) and C35LF (CNG 35 ft Low Floor) which do not comply with FMVSS No. 217. The subject transit buses have only one emergency exit on the right side of the bus instead of the two, as required by the standard.

New Flyer supported its application for an inconsequential noncompliance with the following:

1. The buses exceed the exit total area requirements on all sides. The left side has two exit windows for a total of 25,000 square centimeters or 4.67 times the required area. The right side has one exit window with 12,500 square centimeters of exit area or 2.33 times the required area. The standard does not allow any one exit to claim more than 3,458 square centimeters. Therefore, the right side of the bus does not have the required number of emergency exits although it exceeds the required area. Each bus has two roof exits, where the standard only requires one roof exit. Overall, the buses have 3.28 times the required exit area.

2. Retrofitting these buses to comply with the standard would require modifying and retesting the existing exit door or replacing the right side window with an emergency exit window, which is not possible because the wheel housing limits accessibility. The seating position relative to the window allows for an easy exit. If the window was accidentally opened, there is potential for someone to fall out of the bus. Modifying the exit door to conform to the release force requirements is a possible solution, but would require redesigning the door. Considering the bus already has 3.28 times the required exit area, modifying the buses to include an additional exit would not add to motor vehicle safety.

3. New Flyer does not believe that the buses are a safety hazard because they have excessive accessible emergency exit area. These buses are operated by transit authorities with trained professional drivers; none are operated by the general public. New Flyer has a close relationship with the operators of the buses and is continuously informed of any problems or concerns, and has never had an incident or complaint involving the number or location of emergency exits.

NHTSA considers the safety of the public in transit buses to be of great importance because these buses are intended for daily service and therefore carry hundreds of people each day. In considering whether to grant or deny this petition, the agency looked at the various conditions that would require an emergency evacuation. The agency identified three types of situations in which the evacuation of a bus may be necessary:

1. *Minor crashes or mechanical failures.* These may result in all passengers leaving the bus. Since evacuation time is not a major concern, all passengers would likely exit from one of the service doors.

2. *Major crashes.* It is likely to be important for all bus passengers to leave the bus. Evacuation is important, but conditions indicate that it can be done in an orderly fashion. Again, all of the passengers would likely exit from either service door.

3. *Catastrophic crashes (e.g., fires or submersions).* All bus passengers must evacuate the bus as quickly as possible. Evacuation time is the major concern, passengers would likely exit from any opening available.

The primary safety purpose of requiring the 40 percent distribution of emergency exits area on each side of a bus is to ensure that passengers have sufficient emergency exit openings to escape, should the bus become involved in an incident where the bus would need to be evacuated quickly. This provision in FMVSS No. 217 ensures that emergency exits are distributed throughout the bus and not all on one side. These buses have two emergency exit windows on the left side, one emergency exit window on the right side and two roof exits. Thus, the buses have the minimum number of emergency exits required by FMVSS No. 217. However, these exits were not distributed properly. Instead of a second emergency exit on the right side, these buses have an additional roof exit. This additional roof exit would provide for much needed emergency exit openings should the bus occupants need to evacuate due to a rollover incident. While this additional roof exit is not required by the standard, it does provide for an additional level of safety in the above situation.

In consideration of the foregoing, NHTSA has decided that the applicant has met its burden of persuasion that the noncompliance it described above is inconsequential to motor vehicle safety. Accordingly, its application is granted, and the applicant is exempted from providing the notification of the noncompliance that is required by 49 U.S.C. 30118, and from remedying the

noncompliance, as required by 49 U.S.C. 30120.

(49 U.S.C. 30118, 30120, with delegations of authority at 49 CFR 1.50 and 501.8)

Issued on: June 9, 1998.

L. Robert Shelton,

Associate Administrator for Safety Performance Standards.

[FR Doc. 98–15839 Filed 6–12–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–59–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Office of the Comptroller of the Currency

Proposed Renewal of Information Collections; Comment Request

AGENCY: Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC), Treasury.

ACTION: Notice and request for comment.

SUMMARY: The OCC, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. Currently, the OCC is soliciting comment concerning its extension without change of several information collections.

DATES: Written comments should be submitted by August 14, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to the Communications Division, Attention: 1557–LIST, Third Floor, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, 250 E Street, SW, Washington, DC 20219. In addition, comments may be sent by facsimile transmission to (202)874–5274, or by electronic mail to REGS.COMMENTS@OCC.TREAS.GOV.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the collection may be obtained by contacting Jessie Gates or Camille Dickerson, (202)874–5090, Legislative and Regulatory Activities Division (1557-LIST), Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, 250 E Street, SW, Washington, DC 20219.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The OCC is proposing to extend OMB approval of the following four information collections:

1. *Title:* International Regulations (12 CFR 28).

OMB Number: 1557–0102.

Form Number: None.

Abstract: This submission covers an existing regulation and involves no change to the regulation or to the information collections embodied in the regulation. The OCC requests only that OMB renew its approval of the information collections in the current regulation.

The International Banking Act of 1978, 12 U.S.C. 3101 *et seq.*, as amended, requires collection of specific information relating to licensing applications and supervision of Federal branches and agencies of foreign banks in the United States and mandates recordkeeping requirements for capital equivalency deposits, voluntary liquidations, asset pledges, and asset maintenance requirements.

The International Lending Supervision Act of 1983 (Pub. L. No. 98–181, Title IX, 97 Stat. 1153, 12 U.S.C. 3906) mandates the reporting and disclosure requirements for international assets as well as the recordkeeping requirements for accounting for fees on international loans.

The OCC's regulations in 12 CFR 28 implement requirements imposed on national banks and Federal branches and agencies concerning international activities.

The information collections in 12 CFR 28 are as follows:

Section 28.3 requires a national bank to notify the OCC when it takes certain actions regarding its foreign operations;

Section 28.12 requires a national bank to apply to the OCC before it establishes a Federal branch or agency or exercises fiduciary powers at a Federal branch;

Section 28.15 requires a national bank to maintain records and to seek OCC approval before permitting withdrawal of certain foreign bank capital equivalency deposits;

Section 28.16 contains recordkeeping requirements and allows a foreign bank to apply to the OCC for an exemption to permit an uninsured Federal branch to accept or maintain certain deposit accounts;

Section 28.17 requires a Federal branch or agency to notify the OCC of certain changes in its activities or operations;

Section 28.18 requires a Federal branch or agency to maintain records, in English, and to provide the OCC with a copy of certain reports filed with other Federal regulatory agencies;

Section 28.22 requires a Federal branch or agency to make notice and filings in case of liquidation;

Section 28.52 requires a banking institution to maintain records regarding its allocated transfer risk reserve; and

Section 28.53 requires a banking institution to maintain records regarding its accounting for fees on international loans.

These information collection requirements ensure bank compliance with applicable Federal law, further bank safety and soundness, provide protections for banks, and further public policy interests.

Type of Review: Extension, without change, of a currently approved collection.

Affected Public: Businesses or other for-profit.

Number of Respondents: 185.

Total Annual Responses: 185.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Total Annual Burden: 6,708 Hours.

2. *Title:* (MA)—Securities Offering Disclosure Rules (12 CFR 16).

OMB Number: 1557–0120.

Form Number: None.

Abstract: This submission covers an existing regulation and involves no change to the regulation or to the information collections embodied in the regulation. The OCC requests only that OMB renew its approval of the information collections in the current regulation.

Under 12 U.S.C. 93a, the OCC is empowered to issue rules and regulations to carry out its responsibilities. The requirements in part 16 enable the OCC to perform its responsibilities relating to offerings of securities by national banks by providing the investing public with facts about the condition of the bank, the reasons for raising new capital, and the terms of the offering. Part 16 requires national banks to conform generally to Securities and Exchange Commission rules.

The collections of information contained in 12 CFR Part 16 are as follows:

Section 16.3 requires a national bank to file its registration statement with the OCC;

Section 16.4 states that the OCC may require a national bank to submit to the OCC certain communications not deemed an offer;

Section 16.6 requires a national bank to file documents with OCC and to make certain disclosures to purchasers in sales of nonconvertible debt;

Section 16.17 requires a national bank to file four copies of each document filed under Part 16, and requires filers of amendments or revisions to underline or otherwise indicate clearly any changed information;

Section 16.19 requires a national bank to submit a request to OCC if it wishes to withdraw a registration statement, amendment, or exhibit;

Section 16.20 requires a national bank to file current and periodic reports as required by sections 12 and 13 of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. 78l and m) and