

is taken, the brewer shall make an increasing adjustment on the next tax return.

(Sec. 201, Pub. L. 85-859, 72 Stat. 1334, as amended, 1335, as amended (26 U.S.C. 5054, 5056, 5061))

**§ 25.160 Tax adjustment for brewers who produce more than 2,000,000 barrels of beer.**

Each brewer who has paid tax on beer by return, Form 5000.24, at the reduced rate of tax during a calendar year, but whose production (or the production of a controlled group of brewers of which the brewer is a member) exceeds 2,000,000 barrels of beer in that calendar year, is no longer eligible to pay tax on beer at the reduced rate of tax for any beer removed that calendar year for consumption or sale. The brewer shall make a tax adjustment for the payment of additional tax no later than the return period in which production (or the production of a controlled group of brewers of which the brewer is a member) exceeds 2,000,000 barrels of beer. The adjustment will be determined by multiplying the difference between the higher and lower rates of tax applicable to beer by the number of barrels removed by the brewer that year at the reduced rate of tax. The brewer shall make tax adjustments for all breweries where tax was paid at the lower rate that year, and shall include interest payable from the date on which tax was paid at the lower rate. In the case of a controlled group of brewers whose production exceeds 2,000,000 barrels of beer, all member brewers who paid tax at the lower rate shall make tax adjustments as determined in this section.

(Sec. 201, Pub. L. 85-859, 72 Stat. 1333, as amended (26 U.S.C. 5051))

PREPARATION AND REMITTANCE OF TAX RETURNS

**§ 25.163 Method of tax payment.**

A brewer shall pay the tax on beer by return on Form 5000.24, as provided in §§ 25.164, 25.164a, 25.173 and 25.175. The brewer shall pay the tax by remittance at the time the tax return is rendered, and the remittance will be by check or money order payable to the "Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms" and

mailed with the return, or will be effected by an electronic fund transfer. In paying the tax, a fractional part of a cent will be disregarded unless it amounts to one-half cent or more, in which case it will be increased to one cent.

[T.D. ATF-251, 52 FR 19314, May 22, 1987, as amended by T.D. ATF-365, 60 FR 33669, June 28, 1995]

**§ 25.164 Semimonthly return.**

(a) *Requirement for filing.* Each brewer shall pay the tax on beer (unless prepaid) by semimonthly return on Form 5000.24. The brewer shall file Form 5000.24 as a semimonthly return regardless of whether tax has been prepaid as provided in § 25.175 during the return period. The brewer shall file a return on Form 5000.24 for each return period even though no beer was removed for consumption or sale.

(b) *Payment of tax.* The brewer shall include for payment with the return the full amount of tax required to be determined (and which has not been prepaid) on all beer removed for consumption or sale during the period covered by the return.

(c) *Return periods.* Except as provided in § 25.164a, return periods run from the brewer's business day beginning on the first day of each month through the brewer's business day beginning on the 15th day of that month, and from the brewer's business day beginning on the 16th day of the month through the brewer's business day beginning on the last day of the month.

(d) *Time for filing returns and paying tax.* Except as provided in § 25.164a the brewer shall file the semimonthly tax return, Form 5000.24, for each return period, and make remittance as required by this section, not later than the 14th day after the last day of the return period. If the due date falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, the return and remittance shall be due on the immediately preceding day which is not a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, except as provided by § 25.164a(c).

(e) *Timely filing.* (1) When the brewer sends the semimonthly tax return, Form 5000.24, by U.S. mail, in accordance with the instructions on the form, as required by this section, with remittance as provided for in this section, or

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without remittance as provided for in § 25.165, the date of the official postmark of the United States Postal Service stamped on the cover in which the return and remittance were mailed is considered the date of delivery of the return and the date of delivery of the remittance, if enclosed with the return. When the postmark on the cover is illegible, the burden is on the brewer to prove when the postmark was made.

(2) When the brewer sends the semi-monthly return with or without remittance by registered mail or by certified mail, the date of registry or the date of the postmark on the sender's receipt of certified mail be treated as the date of delivery of the semi-monthly return and of the remittance, if enclosed with the return.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 1512-0467)

(Aug. 16, 1954, ch. 736, 68A Stat. 775, as amended (26 U.S.C. 6302); sec. 201, Pub. L. 85-859, 72 Stat. 1335, as amended (26 U.S.C. 5061))

[T.D. ATF-224, 51 FR 7673, Mar. 5, 1986, as amended by T.D. ATF-246, 52 FR 668, Jan. 8, 1987; T.D. ATF-251, 52 FR 19314, May 22, 1987, T.D. ATF-365, 60 FR 33669, June 28, 1995]

### § 25.164a Special rule for taxes due for the month of September (effective after December 31, 1994).

(a)(1) Except as provided in paragraph (a)(2) of this section, the second semi-monthly period for the month of September shall be divided into two payment periods, from the 16th day through the 26th day, and from the 27th day through the 30th day. The brewer shall file a return on Form 5000.24, and make remittance, for the period September 16-26, no later than September 29. The brewer shall file a return on Form 5000.24, and make remittance, for the period September 27-30, no later than October 14.

(2) *Taxpayment not by electronic fund transfer.* In the case of taxes not required to be remitted by electronic fund transfer as prescribed by § 25.165, the second semi-monthly period of September shall be divided into two payment periods, from the 16th day through the 25th day, and the 26th day through the 30th day. The brewer shall file a return on Form 5000.24, and make remittance, for the period September 16-25, no later than September 28. The

brewer shall file a return on Form 5000.24, and make remittance, for the period September 26-30, no later than October 14.

(b) *Amount of payment: Safe harbor rule.* (1) Taxpayers are considered to have met the requirements of paragraph (a)(1) of this section, if the amount paid no later than September 29 is not less than  $\frac{11}{15}$  (73.3 percent) of the tax liability incurred for the semi-monthly period beginning on September 1 and ending on September 15, and if any underpayment of tax is paid by October 14.

(2) Taxpayers are considered to have met the requirements of paragraph (a)(2) of this section, if the amount paid no later than September 28 is not less than  $\frac{2}{3}$  (66.7 percent) of the tax liability incurred for the semi-monthly period beginning on September 1 and ending on September 15, and if any underpayment of tax is paid by October 14.

(c) *Last day for payment.* If the required due date for taxpayment for the periods September 16-25 or September 16-26 as applicable, falls on a Saturday or legal holiday, the return and remittance shall be due on the immediately preceding day. If the required due date falls on a Sunday, the return and remittance shall be due on the immediately following day.

(d) *Example. Payment of tax for the month of September—(1) Facts.* X, a brewer required to pay taxes by electronic fund transfer, incurred tax liability in the amount of \$30,000 for the first semi-monthly period of September. For the period September 16-26, X incurred tax liability in the amount of \$45,000, and for the period September 27-30, X incurred tax liability in the amount of \$2,000.

(2) *Payment requirement.* X's payment of tax in the amount of \$30,000 for the first semi-monthly period of September is due no later than September 29 (§ 25.164(d)). X's payment of tax for the period September 16-26 is also due no later than September 29 (§ 25.164(a)(1)). X may use the safe harbor rule to determine the amount of payment due for the period of September 16-26 (§ 25.164(a)(b)). Under the safe harbor rule, X's payment of tax must equal