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(c) For classification purposes, the BTS shall publish in the FEDERAL REGISTER annually an index number which shall be used for adjusting gross annual operating revenues. The index number (deflator) is based on the Producer Price Index of Finished Goods and is used to eliminate the effects of inflation from the classification process.

NOTE: Each carrier's operating revenues will be deflated annually using the Producers Price Index (PPI) of Finished Goods before comparing them with the dollar revenue limits prescribed in paragraph (a) of this section. The PPI is published monthly by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The formula to be applied is as follows:

$$\text{Current year's annual operating revenues} \times \frac{\text{1986 average PPI}}{\text{Current year's average PPI}} = \text{Adjusted annual operating revenues}$$

[53 FR 4029, Feb. 11, 1988. Redesignated at 63 FR 52193, Sept. 30, 1998, and amended at 68 FR 4719, Jan. 30, 2003]

§ 1420.4 Annual and quarterly reports of Class I carriers of passengers.

(a) All Class I motor carriers of passengers shall complete and file Motor Carrier Quarterly and Annual Report Form MP-1 for Motor Carriers of Passengers (Form MP-1). Other than Class I carriers are not required to file Form MP-1.

(b) Motor Carrier Quarterly and Annual Report Form MP-1 shall be used to file both quarterly and annual selected motor carrier data. The annual accounting period shall be based either (1) on the 31st day of December in each year, or (2) an accounting year of thirteen 4-week periods ending at the close of the last 7 days of each calendar year. A carrier electing to adopt an accounting year of thirteen 4-week periods shall file with the BTS a statement showing the day on which its accounting year will close. A subsequent change in the accounting period may not be made except by authority of the BTS. The quarterly accounting period shall end on March 31, June 30, September 30, and December 31. The quarterly report shall be filed within 30 days after the end of the reporting quarter. The annual report shall be filed on or before March 31 of the year following the year to which it relates.

(c) The quarterly and annual report shall be filed in duplicate to the Bureau of Transportation Statistics at

the address in §1420.6. Copies of Form MP-1 may be obtained from the BTS.

[52 FR 20400, June 1, 1987. Redesignated at 63 FR 52193, Sept. 30, 1998, as amended at 68 FR 4719, Jan. 30, 2003]

§ 1420.5 Records.

Books, records and carrier operating documents shall be retained as prescribed in 49 CFR part 1220, Preservation of Records.

[52 FR 10383, Apr. 1, 1987. Redesignated at 63 FR 52193, Sept. 30, 1998]

§ 1420.6 Address.

The following address must be used by motor carriers when submitting a report, requesting an exemption from filing a report, or requesting an exemption from public release of a report: Bureau of Transportation Statistics, U.S. Department of Transportation, K-13, 400 Seventh St., SW., Washington, DC 20590. This address may also be used for general correspondence regarding the data collection program described in this section.

[64 FR 13923, Mar. 23, 1999, as amended at 68 FR 4719, Jan. 30, 2003]

§ 1420.8 Requests for exemptions from filing.

(a) *In General.* This section governs requests for exemptions from filing of reports required under §1420.1.

(b) *Criteria.* The Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) may grant a request upon a proper showing that the

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exemption is necessary to preserve confidential business information that is not otherwise publicly available. Information is considered to be confidential when:

(1) Disclosure of the information in the carrier's report would be likely to cause substantial harm to the carrier's competitive position; or

(2) Disclosure of information in the report would be likely to impair protectable government interests.

(c) *Contents of a request.* The contents of a request for an exemption from fil-

ing must contain, at a minimum, the contents that are required for a request for an exemption from public release contained in §1420.9(c). A carrier's request may include any other grounds as to why the request should be granted.

(d) *When requests are due.* The timing of a request for an exemption from filing is the same as the timing for a request for an exemption from public release contained in §1420.9(d). The table below summarizes report and request due dates.

Report	Report due by	Request due by
Annual Form M	March 31	March 31
First Quarter Form QFR	April 30	March 31
Second Quarter Form QFR	July 31	March 31
Third Quarter Form QFR	October 31	March 31
Fourth Quarter Form QFR	January 31	March 31

(e) *Decision to grant or deny a request.*

(1) A request will be denied if it fails to provide all of the supporting information required in paragraph (c) of this section or if the supporting information is insufficient to establish that information in the carrier's report meets the criteria in paragraph (b) of this section.

(2) BTS will grant or deny each request within a reasonable period of time. BTS will notify the carrier of its decision. The decision by BTS shall be administratively final.

(f) *Pendency.* While a request is pending, the carrier is required to submit any reports required under §1420.1.

(g) *Period of exemptions.* If a request for an exemption under this section is granted, the carrier will be exempt from the reporting requirements of §1420.1 for a period of three reporting years.

(h) *Modification of a decision to grant a request.* If a request is granted it remains in effect in accordance with its terms, unless modified by a later finding that the decision was clearly erroneous. If BTS believes such a finding should be made, BTS will notify the requesting carrier in writing of the reasons for the modification. The carrier may seek reconsideration of the modification.

[64 FR 13922, Mar. 23, 1999]

§ 1420.9 Requests for exemptions from public release.

(a) *In General.* This section governs requests for exemptions from public release of reports filed under §1420.1.

(b) *Criteria.* The Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) will grant a request upon a proper showing that the carrier is not a publicly held corporation or that the carrier is not subject to financial reporting requirements of the Securities and Exchange Commission, and that the exemption is necessary to avoid competitive harm and to avoid the disclosure of information that qualifies as trade secret or privileged or confidential information under 5 U.S.C. 552(b)(4). Information is considered to be confidential when:

(1) Disclosure of the information in the carrier's report would be likely to cause substantial harm to the carrier's competitive position; or

(2) Disclosure of information in the report would be likely to impair protectable government interests.

(c) *Contents of a request.* A request for an exemption from public release must contain information supporting the claim. While the supporting information may contain opinions, the request must consist of objective data to the extent possible. General or nonspecific