

the second semimonthly 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 manufacturer shall file a return on Form 5000.24, and make remittance, for the period September 16–25, no later than September 28. The manufacturer 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 11/15 (73.3 percent) of the tax liability incurred for the semimonthly 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 2/3rds (66.7 percent) of the tax liability incurred for the semimonthly 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 manufacturer of tobacco products required to pay taxes by electronic fund transfer, incurred tax liability in the amount of \$30,000 for the first semimonthly 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 semimonthly period of September is due no later than September 29

(§40.165(a)). X's payment of tax for the period September 16–26 is also due no later than September 29 (§40.164(a)(1)). X may use the safe harbor rule to determine the amount of payment due for the period of September 16–26 (§40.164(b)). Under the safe harbor rule, X's payment of tax must equal \$21,990.00, 11/15ths of the tax liability incurred during the first semimonthly period of September. Additionally, X's payment of tax in the amount of \$2,000 for the period September 27–30 must be paid no later than October 14 (§40.164(a)(1)). X must also pay the underpayment of tax, \$23,010.00, for the period September 16–26, no later than October 14 (§40.164(b)).

[T.D. ATF-365, 60 FR 33675, June 28, 1995]

§ 40.165 Times for filing semimonthly return.

(a) *General.* Except as provided by §40.164, and paragraph (b) of this section, semimonthly returns on Form 5000.24 shall be filed, for each return period, 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 §40.164(c).

(b) *Postmark.* The official postmark of the U.S. Postal Service stamped on the cover in which the return was mailed shall be considered the date of delivery of the tax return and, if the return was accompanied by a remittance, the date of delivery of the remittance. When the postmark is illegible, the manufacturer shall prove when the postmark was made. When the proprietor sends the tax 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, as the case may be, shall be treated as the date of delivery of the tax return and, if accompanied, of the remittance.

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

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