

Administration, 409 3rd Street SW., Washington DC, 20416 Tel:(202) 619-0422.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Public Law 100-656, enacted on November 15, 1988, incorporated into the Small Business Act the previously existing regulation that recipients of Federal contracts set aside for small businesses or SBA 8(a) Program procurement must provide the product of a small business manufacturer or processor, if the recipient is other than the actual manufacturer or processor. This requirement is commonly referred to as the Nonmanufacturer Rule. The SBA regulations imposing this requirement are found at 13 CFR 121.906(b) and 121.1106(b). Section 303(h) of the law provides for waiver of this requirement by SBA for any "class of products" for which there are no small business manufacturers or processors in the Federal market. To be considered available to participate in the Federal market on these classes of products, a small business manufacturer must have submitted a proposal for a contract solicitation or received a contract from the Federal government within the last 24 months.

The SBA defines "class of products" based on a six digit North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) and the four digit Product and Service Code established by the Federal Procurement Data System.

Linda G. Williams,

Associate Administrator for Government Contracting.

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SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

Privacy Act of 1974, as Amended; New System of Records and New Routine Use Disclosures

AGENCY: Social Security Administration (SSA).

ACTION: Proposed new system of records and proposed routine uses.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552a(e)(4) and (e)(11)), we are issuing public notice of our intent to establish a new system of records entitled *Electronic Disability Claim File*, 60-0320, hereinafter referred to as the *eDib Claim File*, and routine uses applicable to the system of records. We also are issuing notice that we may disclose personally identifiable information from the *eDib Claim File* to consumer reporting agencies in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552a(b)(12)

and 31 U.S.C. 3711(e). We invite public comment on this proposal.

DATES: We filed a report of the proposed *eDib Claim File* and the applicable routine uses with the Chairwoman of the Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs, the Chairman of the House Committee on Government Reform, and the Director, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB) on December 16, 2003. The proposed *eDib Claim File* system of records and the proposed routine uses will become effective on January 25, 2004, unless we receive comments warranting that they not be effective.

ADDRESSES: Interested individuals may comment on this publication by writing to the Executive Director, Office of Public Disclosure, Office of the General Counsel, Social Security Administration, Room 3-A-6 Operations Building, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, Maryland 21235-6401. All comments received will be available for public inspection at the above address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Christine W. Johnson, Strategic Issues Team, Office of Public Disclosure, Office of the General Counsel, Social Security Administration, Room 3-C-1 Operations Building, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, Maryland 21235-6401, e-mail address at chris.w.johnson@ssa.gov, or by telephone at (410) 965-8563.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background and Purpose of the Proposed New *eDib Claim File* System of Records

A. General Background

The Agency currently receives the application and supporting claims information via a number of means (*i.e.*, field offices, teleclaims, and Internet application) and converts submitted information into paper-based records. SSA and the State Disability Determination Services (DDS) receive, review and transfer the paper folders between offices responsible for developing and adjudicating the claim. Claims representatives, disability examiners, quality assurance reviewers, hearing clerks, judges, etc., work through the paper file while reviewing the evidence. More paper is added at each review stage. After the Agency reaches a decision on a person's entitlement to benefits, the folder is mailed to a component responsible for storing and retrieving folders for subsequent actions. In the paper process, SSA incurs significant costs

from maintaining, handling, moving, housing and reconstructing paper files. This paper bound process includes initial adjudication, the administrative appeals process and continuing eligibility to benefits.

The proposed *eDib Claim File* will allow the electronic collection, transfer, access and processing of disability claims information in a more efficient and less costly manner through improved hardware/software systems and automated programs such as:

- Internet applications that allow the collection of disability claims medical information from the public via the Internet;
- Electronic disability collect system (EDCS) that allows SSA field personnel to electronically collect information and transfer data to the electronic folder;
- Electronic folder infrastructure and document management architecture (DMA) that stores electronic versions of all information previously housed in the paper folder (*e.g.*, data, images, work documents, hearing recordings, etc.) and shares those items electronically among all components in the disability process;
- Automated case processing and management system that builds upon existing products and projects within the Office of Hearings and Appeals including interface with the electronic folder; and
- Systems migration from current Disability Determination Services case processing systems to technology that is better able to handle *eDib* activities.

To this end, the *eDib Claim File* will encompass all disability cases from the initial intake process through the administrative appeals process and include the continuing disability review process. All materials from the disability folder will be created, maintained and stored electronically and case processing systems throughout SSA and the state DDSs will interface with the *eDib Claim File* to support the paperless process.

Because SSA will maintain and retrieve information from the proposed *eDib Claim File* using Social Security numbers (SSN) and/or names, the proposed *eDib Claim File* will constitute a "system of records" under the Privacy Act.

B. Collection and Maintenance of Data in the *eDib Claim File* System of Records

The *eDib Claim File* will include identifying information about claimants, applicants, beneficiaries and potential claimants for disability benefits and payments administered by the Social Security Administration. See the "Categories of Records" section of the