

**SUPPORTING STATEMENT FOR
PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT SUBMISSION UNDER 5 CFR PART 1320
INFORMATION COLLECTION: 2133-New**

B. Collection of Information Employing Statistical Methods

1. Universe and Respondent Selection

The survey universe is U.S. commercial cargo/passenger vessel operators. The potential respondent sample for the survey will consist of approximately 100 U.S. vessel operators. The respondents can be grouped into 10 market segments:

Ocean (Coastal) Tanker
Ocean (Coastal) Tank Barge
Inland Tank Barge
Ocean Container
Dry Bulk
Ocean (Coastal) Dry Cargo Barge
Inland Dry Cargo Barge
Offshore Service
Great Lakes Dry Bulk
Ferry

2. Procedures for Collecting Information

MARAD will mail a letter to each company's Human Resources Department forwarding the survey and explaining its importance, with a cc to the company's CEO. Responses will be requested within two weeks.

3. Methods to Maximize Response

If responses are not received within two weeks, MARAD will follow up with a phone call to the HR Department and to the CEO if necessary.

4. Testing of Procedures

MARAD plans no formal testing of the questionnaire since it is quite brief and does not ask for specific data.

5. Contacts for Statistical Aspects and Data Collection

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