Employment and Training Administration Advisory System U. S. Department of Labor Washington, D.C. 20210

CLASSIFICATION
UI

CORRESPONDENCE
SYMBOL
OWS/DUIO

DATE
June 13, 2007

ADVISORY: UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE PROGRAM LETTER NO. 22-07

TO: ALL STATE WORKFORCE AGENCIES

FROM: EMILY STOVER DeROCCO /s/

Assistant Secretary

SUBJECT: Maintenance of the Interstate Connection (ICON) Network Central Listing

of Vessels

- 1. <u>Purpose</u>. To remind State Workforce Agencies (SWAs) of the importance of keeping the ICON Central Listing of Vessels up-to-date. The Central Listing of Vessels assists SWAs' claims-taking staff when unemployment insurance (UI) claims are filed by maritime workers.
- 2. <u>References</u>. "Interstate Maritime Reciprocal Arrangement" and the "Interstate Great Lakes Reciprocal Arrangement"
- 3. <u>Background</u>. The Central Listing of Vessels is a directory of vessels (boats, ships, ferries or barges) that are covered by state UI laws. In the mid-1990s, the directory was added to the automated handbooks maintained and accessible via ICON to replace the hardcopy directory of vessels.

The Central Listing of Vessels is accessible from the ICON system's UI Interstate Handbook (HAND) View Menu. The listing provides for on-line storage of the directory information for retrieval and updating and is the source of information for the proper identification of the state of coverage for maritime employment when UI claims are filed by maritime workers.

Updated information about the state of coverage for all vessels registered in the United States is vital to claims-takers that provide assistance to claimants and to those handling claims where the identity of the state of coverage is necessary to request the transfer of maritime wages for use on a Combined Wage Claim (CWC).

RESCISSIONS	EXPIRATION DATE
None	June 13, 2008

- 4. <u>Use of the UI Interstate Central Listing of Vessels Automated Processing User Guide</u>. The "UI Interstate Central Listing of Vessels Automated Processing User Guide" provides additional guidance for states to maintain current information in the directory regarding registered vessels. An electronic version of the User Guide will be provided to all Interstate Program Coordinators (IPCs) in the near future.
- 5. <u>Establishing Internal Procedures for Assessing and Updating the Central Listing of Vessels</u>. Currently, 45 states access and update the Central Listing of Vessels. The remaining states are strongly encouraged to install the Central Listing of Vessels, whether or not they have employers listed in this directory, because it will be needed in the event a maritime worker files a claim in the state.

Each state is responsible for updating the information published in this directory. The directory provides information which other states can access. Updates are made by accessing the ICON UI Interstate Handbook Update (HDUP) screen and entering option 4 on the Main Menu screen.

The maintenance of current information in this directory is dependent on knowledge of employers establishing or discontinuing coverage for specific vessels. SWAs are strongly encouraged to establish an internal procedure that requires UI tax staff to notify the IPC or the staff position that has been assigned the responsibility of updating the directory, when such changes occur. Whenever tax coverage status changes for any vessel, the IPC (or other designated staff member) should be advised, and the Central Listing of Vessels should be updated as soon as possible. Such procedures are critical to maintaining a current directory.

- 6. <u>Action Required</u>. Administrators are requested to provide this information and instructions to the appropriate staff.
- 7. <u>Inquiries</u>. Direct any questions to the appropriate Regional Office.