

SST Certification Committee Report to the Governing Board

The Certification Committee entered the test phase of the ongoing certification process with SpeedTax, Inc. in late December. This phase addresses the technical requirements that are related to taxability, sourcing, calculation and production of the Streamlined Electronic Report. The Committee plans to complete the process before May 1, 2008 and make recommendation to the Executive Director that SpeedTax, Inc. be contracted as a Certified Service Provider. A recommendation that SpeedTax be approved as a Model 2 CAS provider will be made, as well.

The Committee held its' first quarter meeting for calendar year 2008 on February 12-13. A CSP review was conducted on the first day with representatives from Avalara, Exactor, Taxware and SpeedTax in attendance. The balance of the agenda involved discussions concerning rate and boundary database administration, recertification of the CSP's, implementation procedures for Model 2 retailers and other pertinent issues. One specific topic concerned the development of an enhanced Streamlined Electronic Return that would provide a uniform reporting mechanism for both CSP's and retailers, alike. The Committee plans to have a prototype available for presentation by June 1, 2008.

Notification was given by the three Certified Service Providers that a change in venue of their data centers had occurred since the conclusion of the initial certification process. As a requirement for recertification, a sub team of members of the Certification Committee and SST, Inc. conducted onsite security assessments, having completed the task on February 1, 2008. Having addressed all other requirements, and in accordance with the rules and procedures in Article V, the Certification Committee submitted reports on February 29, 2008 to the Executive Committee recommending recertification of the current contracted Certified Service Providers.

Submitted by: Gary Centlivre, Chair
Certification Committee
March 28, 2008