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Comptroller

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BULLETIN NUMBER 2020-01

TO: Assessors of Property
SM

FROM: Stephanie Maxwell, General Counsel

DATE: August 11, 2020

RE: **AMENDMENTS TO RULES REGARDING ASSESSMENT OF
COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL TANGIBLE PERSONAL PROPERTY**

On August 10, 2020, amendments to the State Board of Equalization's rules regarding the assessment of commercial and industrial tangible personal property became effective. You can view the full text of the rules here:

<https://publications.tnsosfiles.com/rules/0600/0600-05.20200810.pdf>

Rule 0600-05-.04(4) was amended to clarify the total acquisition cost the taxpayer should report. In particular, if the taxpayer purchased property new, the taxpayer should report the cost new. If the taxpayer purchased property used, the taxpayer should report the cost new as of the year the property was new if that cost is known, or the actual acquisition cost in the year the taxpayer acquired the property if the cost new is not known.

Rule 0600-05-.04(4) was also amended to provide that for property previously reported as construction-in-process (CIP), the taxpayer should report the total acquisition cost as of the year the property was placed in service rather than the year of purchase, if those years differ.

Rule 0600-05-.06 changed the reference to acquisition cost from "total acquisition cost to the taxpayer" to "total acquisition cost."

Finally, Rule 0600-05-.11 was amended by authorizing a new reporting schedule. The instruction sheet has also been updated to reflect those changes.

Enclosures (2)

COUNTY, TENNESSEE
DUE MARCH 1 TANGIBLE PERSONAL PROPERTY SCHEDULE
 FOR REPORTING
 COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL PERSONAL PROPERTY

TAX YEAR: 2021

IN ACCORDANCE WITH T.C.A. 67-5-903, THIS SCHEDULE MUST BE COMPLETED, SIGNED ON THE REVERSE SIDE, AND FILED WITH THE ASSESSOR OF PROPERTY ON OR BEFORE MARCH 1. FAILURE TO DO SO WILL RESULT IN A FORCED ASSESSMENT, AND YOU WILL BE SUBJECT TO A PENALTY AS PROVIDED BY STATE LAW.

CO#	CONTROL MAP	GROUP	PARCEL	PI	SI

BUS NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, ST, ZIP _____

PART I. GENERAL DATA (MAKE CHANGES AS NEEDED)

PROPERTY ADDRESS _____

REAL ESTATE OWNER _____

BUSINESS OWNER(S) _____

CONTACT PERSON _____

CONTACT PHONE _____

BUSINESS LICENSE # _____

YEAR BUS. STARTED _____

TYPE OF BUSINESS _____

ASSESSOR'S USE ONLY			
TOTAL THIS SIDE	_____	SCHEDULE _____	OR _____ AM
TOTAL REVERSE SIDE	_____	TYPE _____	_____ AU _____ AP
TOTAL ATTACHMENTS	_____	ASMT TYPE	_____
TOTAL APPRAISAL	_____	ASSESSMENT RATIO	_____ x _____
ASSESSMENT CITY	_____	SCHEDULE FURNISHED	_____
SSD1	000	SCHEDULE	_____
SSD2	000	RETURNED	_____
PROP TYPE	08	DESK REVIEW	_____
ACCOUNT STATUS	T	DATE	_____
YR LAST APR	_____	BY	_____
DEPR YEAR	2021	AUDIT DATE	_____
ASSET LIST YR	_____	BY	_____
UNITS: TYPE	_____	SMALL	_____
NUMBER	_____	ACCOUNT	_____
APPRAISED \$ PER UNIT	_____		
DISTRICT	01		

D/B/A _____

BUSINESS LOCATED (please check one)

OUTSIDE CITY INSIDE CITY (indicate city below)

CITY: _____

IF YOU WERE OUT OF BUSINESS IN THIS COUNTY ON JANUARY 1, PLEASE NOTIFY THE ASSESSOR OF PROPERTY OF THE DATE OUT OF BUSINESS IN ORDER TO AVOID A FORCED ASSESSMENT.

PART II. OWNED PERSONAL PROPERTY - STANDARD VALUE

Report all personal property owned by you and used or held for use in your business or profession as of January 1, including items fully depreciated on your accounting records. Do not report inventories of merchandise held for sale or exchange or finished goods in the hands of the manufacturer. Personal property leased or rented and used in your business must be reported in PART III of this schedule and not in this section. Property on which you wish to report a nonstandard value must be reported in PART IV of this schedule and not in this section. Qualified pollution control equipment must be reported in PART V of this schedule.

A separate schedule should be filed for each business location. List the total acquisition cost new for each group below by year the property was new (typically the year made) in the REVISED COST column. For property purchased as used, if the cost new or year the property was new is not known and cannot reasonably be determined, you may report the actual acquisition cost to you for the year you acquired the property. If COST ON FILE is printed on the schedule, you need only report new cost totals in the REVISED COST column resulting from acquisition or disposition of property. ALTERNATIVE REPORTING FOR SMALL ACCOUNTS - If you believe the depreciated value of your property is \$1,000 or less you may use the Small Accounts Certification (reverse side) as an alternative to reporting detailed costs below. With this certification, subject to audit, your assessment per this schedule will be set at \$300.

REVERSE SIDE OF THIS FORM MUST BE COMPLETED IF APPLICABLE

GROUP 1 - FURNITURE, FIXTURES, GENERAL EQUIPMENT, AND ALL OTHER PROPERTY NOT LISTED IN ANOTHER GROUP				GROUP 4 - AIRCRAFT, BOATS, AND TOWERS				GROUP 6 - BILLBOARDS, TANKS, AND PIPELINES			
YEAR	COST ON FILE	REVISED COST	DEPR	YEAR	COST ON FILE	REVISED COST	DEPR	YEAR	COST ON FILE	REVISED COST	DEPR
2020		.88		2020			.92	2020			.94
2019		.75		2019			.85	2019			.88
2018		.63		2018			.77	2018			.81
2017		.50		2017			.69	2017			.75
2016		.38		2016			.62	2016			.69
2015		.25		2015			.54	2015			.63
PRIOR		.20		2014			.46	2014			.56
TOTAL				2013			.38	2013			.50
GROUP 2 - COMPUTERS, COPIERS, PERIPHERALS, AND TOOLS				2012			.31	2012			.44
YEAR	COST ON FILE	REVISED COST	DEPR	2011			.23	2011			.38
2020		.67		PRIOR			.20	2010			.31
2019		.33		TOTAL				2009			.25
PRIOR		.20		GROUP 5 - MANUFACTURING MACHINERY				PRIOR			.20
TOTAL				YEAR	COST ON FILE	REVISED COST	DEPR	TOTAL			
GROUP 3 - MOLDS, DIES, AND JIGS				2020			.88	GROUP 9 - VEHICLES			
YEAR	COST ON FILE	REVISED COST	DEPR	2019			.75	YEAR	COST ON FILE	REVISED COST	DEPR
2020		.75		2018			.63	2020			.80
2019		.50		2017			.50	2019			.60
2018		.25		2016			.38	2018			.40
PRIOR		.20		2015			.25	PRIOR			.20
TOTAL				PRIOR			.20	TOTAL			
GROUP 7 - SCRAP PROPERTY				GROUP 8 - RAW MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES				GROUP 10 - CONSTRUCTION IN PROCESS			
YEAR	COST ON FILE	REVISED COST	DEPR	YEAR	COST ON FILE	REVISED COST	DEPR	YEAR	COST ON FILE	REVISED COST	DEPR
ALL			.02	ALL			1.00	ALL			.15

RETURN THIS SCHEDULE AND ANY ACCOMPANYING DATA TO:

LEASED VALUE ON FILE

LAST APPRAISAL
LAST ASSESSMENT
LAST EQUALIZED ASSESSMENT **\$0**

ONLINE ID:

SIGN THIS SCHEDULE ON THE REVERSE SIDE

CT-0025-9557
 REV. AUGUST 2020

PART III. LEASED PERSONAL PROPERTY - Report all items leased or rented by you for the conduct of your business as of January 1. If additional space is needed, attach a separate sheet using the same format. Regardless of any contract between the lessor and lessee as to who shall pay the taxes, leased personal property is to be assessed to the lessee.

GRP	ITEM DESCRIPTION MAKE AND MODEL NUMBER SERIAL NUMBER	ITEM COST	LEASE TERM YEAR LEASE BEGAN	MONTHLY RENT	LEASE TYPE	LESSOR'S LEASE NUMBER	LESSOR NAME & ADDRESS
					Operating Capital Other		
					Operating Capital Other		
					Operating Capital Other		
					Operating Capital Other		
					Operating Capital Other		
					Operating Capital Other		
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					Operating Capital Other		
					Operating Capital Other		
					Operating Capital Other		

PART IV. OWNED PERSONAL PROPERTY - NONSTANDARD VALUE - Report property on which you wish to report a value different from standard depreciated cost where such value more closely reflects fair market value. Include evidence to support the request for a non-standard value, such as a recent appraisal or a value from an authoritative price or valuation guide. Such evidence will be considered in any determination of a nonstandard value. If additional space is needed, attach a separate sheet using the same format.

GRP	ITEM DESCRIPTION	YEAR MADE	ACQUISITION COST	DEPR FACTOR	VALUE AS OF JANUARY 1	ASSESSOR USE ONLY	
						DEPR	VALUE

PART V. POLLUTION CONTROL - Report pollution control equipment qualified under T.C.A. 67-5-604 (enclose copy of certificate). Such equipment will be valued at one-half percent of cost.

ACQUISITION COST	CERTIFICATE YEAR	CERTIFICATE EXPIRES

NOTES

SMALL ACCOUNTS CERTIFICATION (OPTIONAL). By checking the box at left, I certify that the total depreciated value of my property (all groups) is \$1,000 or less. I understand this certification is subject to penalties for perjury and I may be subject to statutory penalty and cost if this certification is proven false.

I certify that the information herein, including any accompanying schedules or data, is true, correct and complete, to the best of my knowledge and belief.

PRINT NAME _____ PRINT TITLE _____

SIGNED _____ TITLE _____ DATE _____

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE TANGIBLE PERSONAL PROPERTY SCHEDULE
FOR REPORTING COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL PERSONAL PROPERTY**

Tennessee law provides that a **TANGIBLE PERSONAL PROPERTY SCHEDULE** shall annually be completed by all partnerships, corporations, other business associations not issuing stock, and individuals operating for profit as a business or profession, including manufacturers, except those whose property is entirely assessable by the Office of State Assessed Properties. These instructions for completing the schedule are in accordance with the TENNESSEE CODE ANNOTATED (T.C.A.), Title 67, Chapter 5, Parts 6 and 9, and with rules for the assessment of commercial and industrial tangible personal property promulgated by the Tennessee State Board of Equalization, Tenn. Comp. R. & Regs. 0600-05-.01 - .12.

The completed **TANGIBLE PERSONAL PROPERTY SCHEDULE** is to be returned to the local assessor of property on or before **March 1** of each tax year. Failure to file the signed schedule by March 1 of the tax year will result in a forced assessment in accordance with T.C.A. § 67-5-903. **PLEASE NOTE: There is no authority for anyone to grant an extension of time to file this schedule.** In the event the assessor makes a forced assessment, the taxpayer cannot amend the schedule and the forced assessment will not be equalized to the prevailing level of property values for assessment purposes in the jurisdiction.

If the business was sold, relocated outside the county or terminated *prior to* January 1 of the tax year, please notify the assessor immediately to prevent the business from being assessed for the current tax year. If the business was sold, relocated outside the county or terminated *after* January 1 of the tax year, T.C.A. § 67-5-513 requires the taxpayer to notify the assessor and trustee and, within fifteen (15) days after the date of selling, relocating or terminating the business, make payment of any taxes, interest and penalties due and owing and the taxes of the current year in accordance with the assessment records, which shall be based on the last assessment and rate fixed, according to law.

The total acquisition cost reported on the schedule must include all tangible personal property used or held for use in the business or profession as of January 1 of the tax year, including, but not limited to, furniture, fixtures, machinery, equipment, raw materials, and supplies. **All assessable items must be included in this schedule whether or not fully depreciated on the taxpayer's income tax records.** The preprinted depreciation factors (percent good) as provided on the schedule are merely for the taxpayer's information. The taxpayer is not required to calculate depreciated cost as this will be calculated and recorded by the assessor.

Do not report growing crops, the direct product of the soil in the hands of the producer or their immediate vendee, finished goods in the hands of the manufacturer, inventories of merchandise held for sale or exchange, or goods in process. Also, property in transit through the state to a final destination outside the state is deemed not to have acquired a situs in Tennessee for the purpose of personal property taxation. Property imported from outside the United States, held in a foreign trade zone or subzone, and then exported directly to a location outside Tennessee is exempt from personal property taxation.

In lieu of detailing total acquisition cost, T.C.A. § 67-5-903(b) permits a taxpayer to certify that the **depreciated value** of tangible personal property otherwise reportable on the form is \$1,000 or less. Therefore, if a taxpayer can substantiate that the **depreciated value** of the tangible personal property, including leased equipment and nonstandard equipment, is \$1,000 or less, the taxpayer can indicate so by marking the **SMALL ACCOUNTS CERTIFICATION** box on the back of the schedule. If this certification is later determined to be false, then penalties for perjury and statutory penalty and costs may apply. All schedules are subject to audit and, as part of an audit, a taxpayer may be required to list and document total acquisition cost for equipment used or held for use in the business.

The following instructions for each section are intended as a general guide. If you have further questions regarding the schedule, please contact the local assessor's office for assistance.

PART I. GENERAL DATA

Provide the requested information regarding the identification and location of the business. Make any needed corrections to the business name or mailing address.

PART II. OWNED PERSONAL PROPERTY - STANDARD VALUE

For each group of property, list the total acquisition cost of the property being reported. Total acquisition cost is defined as the full acquisition cost new of personal property and includes freight, installation, set-up, and sales tax. This cost new should be reported for the year the property was new (typically the year made). For property purchased as used, if the cost new or year the property was new is not known and cannot reasonably be determined, you may report the actual acquisition cost to you for the year you acquired the property. The total acquisition cost reported should include the full invoiced cost without deduction for the value of certain inducements such as agreements and warranties when these inducements are regularly provided without additional charge. For property previously reported as construction-in-process tangible personal property (CIP), the total acquisition cost must be reported as acquired in the year the property was placed in service rather than the year of purchase, if those years differ.

A capitalized expenditure made with respect to property after the initial acquisition must be reported in the year the expenditure is booked as a fixed asset. Capitalized expenditures are those costs which are capitalized on the taxpayer's financial books and records as a fixed asset and either (1) add to the value, or substantially prolong the useful life, of such property or (2) adapt such property to a new or different use. The costs of the capitalized expenditure should be reported as they are shown on the taxpayer's financial books and records. Expenses, costs or amounts paid or incurred for incidental repairs and maintenance of property should not be reported.

If "Cost on File" is printed and has not changed, no entry is necessary under "Revised Cost."

GROUP 1 - FURNITURE, FIXTURES, GENERAL EQUIPMENT, AND ALL OTHER PROPERTY NOT LISTED IN ANOTHER GROUP

Include all personal property not specifically identified in one of the other groups. For many businesses, all or most of the personal property will fall into this category. A partial list of the types of equipment to be reported in this group includes:

Answering machines	Libraries (law, medical, professional, etc.)
Amusement devices (coin-operated)	Medical equipment (e.g. MRIs, CT scan, dialysis machines, etc.)
Amusement park rides & equipment	Mining & quarrying equipment
Arcade machines	Mortuary equipment
ATM machines	Musical instruments & equipment
Auto & truck washes	Office equipment (e.g. calculators, adding machines, etc.) furniture & fixtures
Auto repair equipment (except tools: see Group 2)	Postage meters
Barber & beauty shop equipment	Photographic equipment
Broadcasting equipment (except towers: see Group 4)	Recreational equipment (bowling lanes, billiard tables, etc.)
Bulldozers	Repair & maintenance equipment
Cable television equipment	Restaurant fixtures and equipment
Cameras (including digital cameras)	Retail fixtures and equipment
Cash registers (except computer mainframe: see Group 2)	Satellite dishes
Digital converter boxes	Signs (not billboards: see Group 6)
Dictation (transcribing) equipment	Sound reinforcement & recording equipment
Earth moving equipment	Sound systems
Forklifts	Telephones
Golf carts	Telephone systems
Grocery fixtures & equipment	Theater fixtures & equipment
Gym & exercise equipment	Truck trailers (over-the-road equipment hauling)
Hotel/motel/apartment furniture, fixtures & equipment	Vending equipment
Laundry & dry cleaning equipment	Warehousing equipment

(continued on reverse side)

The total acquisition cost must be reported for each item of property included in this group without any part of the cost being separated and placed in another group, even if the item of property contains computer components and software. If the property cannot function or operate for the purpose for which the property is designed without such computer components and software, then no part of the cost can be separated from the property.

GROUP 2 - COMPUTERS, COPIERS, PERIPHERALS, AND TOOLS – Include all personal computers, laptops, desktop computers, personal digital assistants, cell phones, paging systems (including purchased pagers), mainframes, minicomputers, supercomputers, CPUs, input devices (such as scanners and keyboards), output devices (such as printers and plotters), monitors, networking equipment, global positioning system equipment, disk drives, tape drives, terminals, operational computer software, cables, modems, copiers, facsimile machines, and portable hand and power tools. Operational computer software must be reported, and includes embedded software so integral to the operation of a computer that the computer could not perform any valuable or useful function without the software. If computer software other than operational computer software is included in the sale or lease price of a computer without being separately stated, then the cost of such computer software must be included in the reported cost of the computer. DO NOT REPORT other machinery, equipment or other property in Group 2, even though such machinery, equipment or other property may contain computer components and software.

GROUP 3 - MOLDS, DIES, AND JIGS – Include all molds, dies, and jigs.

GROUP 4 - AIRCRAFT, BOATS, AND TOWERS (not classified as real property) – Include all aircraft, radio and TV broadcast towers unless classified as real property; and watercraft. **Include all aircraft, boats, radio and TV broadcast towers reported last year as personal property. All new towers, except those excluded in T.C.A. § 7-59-102(h), should be classified as real property.**

GROUP 5 - MANUFACTURING MACHINERY – Include all machinery used in manufacturing processes. The total acquisition cost must be reported for each item of property included in this group without any part of the cost being separated and placed in another group, even if the item of property contains computer components and software.

GROUP 6 - BILLBOARDS, TANKS, AND PIPELINES – All billboards are to be reported. Billboards are freestanding and commonly have a utility (such as electricity) attached. A sign attached to a building or which is easily movable must be reported in Group 1.

Above-ground storage tanks that can be moved without disassembly and are not affixed to the land are to be reported in this group; otherwise, above-ground storage tanks not meeting this exception to T.C.A. § 67-5-501(10)(B)(iii) must be classified as real property.

Pursuant to T.C.A. § 67-5-501(10)(B)(iii), mains, pipes, pipelines and tanks permitted or authorized to be built, laid or placed in, upon, or under any public or private street or place for conducting steam, heat, water, oil, electricity or any property, substance or product capable of transportation or conveyance therein or that is protected thereby, are properly classified as real property.

GROUP 7 - SCRAP PROPERTY – Include all property no longer capable of use and for which there is no reasonable expectation of repair but which is still owned by the business or located at the business site. If property is still being used, is capable of use, or is simply idle, then such property cannot be reported in this group and must be reported in its respective group on this schedule.

GROUP 8 - RAW MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES – Include all raw materials and supplies which are defined as follows:

Raw materials are defined as items of tangible personal property, crude or processed, which are held or maintained by a taxpayer for use through refining, combining, or any other process in the production or fabrication of another item or product. **Do not report goods in process.** The determination of whether tangible personal property should be classified as raw material depends on the taxpayer's use of the property and not on the nature or character of the taxpayer's business. Tangible personal property may be classified as raw material in the hands of the taxpayer even if the taxpayer is not considered to be a manufacturer under other Internal Revenue Code provisions.

Supplies are defined as expendable items of tangible personal property which are used or held for use in support of a business activity, including, but not limited to, office supply stocks, stocks of spare parts for maintenance of machinery and equipment, accessories used in manufacturing processes, printing supplies, and cleaning and maintenance supplies.

Report the total acquisition cost of all raw materials and supplies on hand as of **January 1**, as determined by the "first-in-first-out" (FIFO) method of accounting.

GROUP 9 - VEHICLES – Include all automobiles, buses, tractors, trucks, and other vehicles designed for over-the-road use. If a vehicle carries commercial tags it should be reported. If it is registered to a business or an individual operating as a business, whether or not the vehicle carries commercial tags, the vehicle should be reported. (Truck trailers are reported in Group 1). Forklifts, golf carts, and other similar items that are not designed for over-the-road use are to be reported in Group 1.

GROUP 10 - CONSTRUCTION IN PROCESS (CIP) – Personal Property which is treated as CIP for federal income tax purposes (as of January 1) must be reported in this group. Report only those costs included on the taxpayer's federal income tax return as CIP.

PART III. LEASED PERSONAL PROPERTY – Report all personal property rented or leased by the taxpayer from others for use in the conduct of, or as part of, the business as of January 1. T.C.A. § 67-5-502(c) provides that personal property leased to a commercial or industrial user is to be assessed to the user. Leased personal property includes, but is not limited to: equipment that is leased only, not sold; equipment that is leased at nominal rent or loaned under certain circumstances; equipment that is leased and not permitted to be sold; leased coin-operated machines and devices; equipment that is placed on location; vehicles, automobiles, or trucks; furniture; electronic equipment; etc.

For "Year Lease Began", report the year of acquisition by the lessor if the lessor purchased the property being used. Otherwise, report the year the property was originally made, if known or able to be reasonably ascertained through investigation.

Report the total acquisition cost of the leased personal property as acquired by the lessor if the lessor purchased the property being used. If the total acquisition cost is unknown or cannot be ascertained through investigation, then report the advertised retail price of the property.

PART IV. OWNED PERSONAL PROPERTY - NONSTANDARD VALUE – If a taxpayer desires to report items of property at a value different from the value that would result from the valuation methodology in Part II, then the taxpayer must report such items of property in this Part IV. Values reported in this section may not be accepted unless sufficient written evidence of the value reported is provided for evaluation by the assessor's staff. The assessor's staff may request clarification or further documentation. Types of evidence that may support nonstandard value include: recent appraisals by appraisers holding professional designations in the valuation of personal property from recognized appraisal organizations and authoritative price or valuation guides for subject property.

PART V. POLLUTION CONTROL – Special statutory valuation of pollution control equipment must be reported under this part (see T.C.A. § 67-5-604). The taxpayer must enclose a copy of the pollution control certificate issued by the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation or its designee.

NOTES: Use this area for explanation. If necessary, attach additional pages.

SIGNATURE – The person completing this schedule must print and sign their name and state their title and the date of completion. For the convenience of the staff of the assessor's office, please also provide direct contact information (phone number(s) and email address(es)) of any person(s) with information and knowledge of what has been reported, in the event the assessor's office needs additional information.

Return the schedule, along with any accompanying data, to the local assessor of property on or before **March 1. PLEASE BE REMINDED: There is no authority for anyone to grant an extension of time to file this schedule.**

This schedule as completed is a public record, but any accompanying documents filed with the schedule or submitted as part of an audit will be treated as confidential pursuant to T.C.A. § 67-5-402 and any other applicable state or federal law.

Rev. August 2020