Form 3468 Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service

Computation of Investment Credit

► Attach to your tax return.

1974

Name

Identifying number as shown on page 1 of your tax return

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General Instructions

(References are to the Internal Revenue Code.)

A. Who Must File.—Any individual, estate, trust, or corporation claiming an investment credit must attach this form to its income tax return.

Partnerships and small business corporations are not required to file this form because the credit is claimed by the partners and shareholders, but they must complete Schedule K on their returns showing the allocation of investment credit property to the partners and shareholders.

The investment credit is not applicable to a Domestic International Sales Corporation (DISC) and does not pass through to any DISC shareholder.

An estate or trust is allowed a credit for its share of the investment in certain depreciable property with an estimated useful life of 3 or more years. Estates and trusts that apportion the investment between themselves and the beneficiaries should, in addition to filing this form, attach a statement showing the allocation of the investment among the beneficiaries. The statement must show each beneficiary's allocable share of (1) the basis of the new property and (2) the cost of used property, and the "life years" assigned to the property.

- **B.** When Allowed.—The credit is allowed for the first year the qualified property is placed in service.
- C. Property Defined.—You are allowed a credit against your tax for investment in certain depreciable property with an estimated useful life of 3 years or more. Except as provided below, the investment credit is applicable to:
 - (1) tangible personal property,
 - (2) elevators and escalators,
 - (3) real property (except buildings and their structural components) if used as an integral part of manufacturing, production, or extraction, etc., or used as a research facility or bulk storage facility for fungible commodities in connection with these activities, and
 - (4) livestock (other than horses) if substantially identical livestock (not subject to recapture tax) is not sold or disposed of (except in

an involuntary conversion) during the one-year period beginning 6 months before the acquisition date. You must reduce the cost of the acquired livestock by the amount realized on the disposition of the substantially identical livestock.

The investment credit is not applicable to:

- (1) certain property used predominantly outside the U.S.;
- (2) property used for lodging or in connection with furnishing lodging, except (a) property used in certain commercial facilities located therein (such as a restaurant), (b) property used by a hotel or motel, or (c) coin-operated vending machines, washing machines, and dryers;
- (3) property used by a tax-exempt organization (except when the unrelated business income tax applies);
- (4) property used by governmental units; and
- (5) that portion of a pollution control facility, railroad rolling stock, coal mine safety equipment expenditures, rehabilitation of low income housing, job training facilities, or day care facilities (see sections 169, 184, 187, 167(k), 188, respectively) that the taxpayer has elected to amortize over a 5-year period.
- **D.** Election for Leased Property.—A lessor may elect to treat all or part of an investment in new property as if made by the lessee instead of the lessor. (See section 48(d).) For limitation on availability of the credit to certain lessors, see section 46(d)(3).
- E. Recomputed Tax on Early Disposition of Property.—If property is disposed of prior to the life-years category used in computing the investment credit, recompute the credit using as the useful life the period the property was actually held. In recomputing the credit, use the life year categories shown on page 1. If the credit taken, including carrybacks and

carryovers, is more than the recomputed credit, you must increase the tax for the year of disposition by the excess. You may use Form 4255 to compute the tax increase.

F. Carryback and Carryover of Unused Credits.—Any part of an investment credit you cannot use because it exceeds the amount allowable (including any unused credit created by the carryback of a net capital loss or a net operating loss) may be carried back 3 years and forward 7 and may be used to the extent permissible within the limitations applicable in those years.

Special rule for carryover of unused credits from taxable years ending before 1971.—Unused credits from taxable years ending before 1971 that can be carried over to a taxable year beginning after 1970, may be carried forward for a total of 10 years.

Similarly, unused credits not absorbed because of the special 20% limitation on carryovers and carrybacks to years beginning after 1968 and before 1971 may also be carried forward a total of 10 years.

You may make a claim for refund based upon the carryback of an unused investment credit by filing Form 843, Form 1040X (individuals), Form 1120X (corporations), or an amended return for the year to which the unused credit is carried. Taxpayers who want a tentative (quick) refund may file Form 1045 (individuals) or Form 1139 (corporations).

G. Basis and Cost.—The credit for new property applies to the basis of the property. The credit for used property applies to the cost of the property. The cost of used property does not include the basis of any property traded in unless the trade-in resulted in the recapture of all or any portion of an investment credit previously allowed or in a reduction of an investment credit carryback or carryover.

No adjustment for additional first-year depreciation or salvage value is required.

For purposes of the investment credit, the useful life of the qualifying property must be the same as the useful life used for depreciation or amortization.

Specific Instructions

Line 1. New Property.—Enter the basis of property (as described in instructions C and G) placed in service during the taxable year.

Used Property.—Enter the cost (subject to dollar limitation below) of used property placed in service during the taxable year. See instruction G. Property inherited, received as a gift, or acquired from certain related parties does not qualify for the investment credit.

Dollar Limitation on Used Property.— In general, the amount of used property you may take into account may not exceed \$50,000 (determined without regard to the applicable percentages based on useful life).

If a husband and wife file separate returns, each may claim up to \$25,000 unless one of them has no qualifying used property, in which case the other may claim up to \$50,000.

The amount of used property placed in service by a partnership, small business corporation, estate, or trust that may be taken into account may not exceed \$50,000. The \$50,000 limitation

also applies to each partner, shareholder, and beneficiary.

A controlled group of corporations (see section 48(c)(3)(C)) must apportion the \$50,000 limitation among the component members of the group based on the total cost of used property each member placed in service. Make the apportionment without regard to both the \$50,000 limitation and the applicable percentages based on useful life.

Estates and Trusts.—In case of an estate or trust the amount of investment is apportioned between the estate or trust and the beneficiaries based on the income of the estate or trust allocable to each.

Line 4. Priority of Application of Unused Credits.—The limitation is first absorbed by:

- (a) unused credits carried from years ending before 1971, then by
- (b) credits for property placed in service in the current year, and then by
- (c) unused credits from taxable years ending after 1970.

Line 7. Tax on Lump-Sum Distributions.—Enter the amount of partial tax included in line 6 by the recipients of lump-sum distributions from qualified employees' trusts or annuity plans.

Line 10. Limitation.—If the tax liability (line 9) is \$25,000 or less, the investment credit may not exceed the amount of the tax liability.

If the tax liability exceeds \$25,000, the credit may not exceed \$25,000 plus 50% of the excess.

If a husband and wife file separate returns and both are entitled to an investment credit, compute the limitation by substituting \$12,500 for the \$25,000 shown in line 10(a).

Controlled corporate groups (see section 46(a)(5)) must apportion the \$25,000 among all component members.

An estate or trust must reduce the \$25,000 amount to (a) \$25,000 multiplied by (b) the qualified investment apportioned to the estate or trust, divided by (c) the aggregate qualified investment apportioned among the estate or trust and its beneficiaries.