

Internal Revenue Service, Treasury

§ 301.7701-4

specified for the elections, the following transactions are deemed to occur under this paragraph (g) as a result of the elections, with each successive transaction occurring on the same day immediately after the preceding transaction S1 is treated as liquidating into Parent, then S2 is treated as liquidating into Parent, and finally S3 is treated as liquidating into Parent.

(4) *Effective date.* Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (g)(2)(ii) of this section, this paragraph (g) applies to elections that are filed on or after November 29, 1999. Taxpayers may apply this paragraph (g) retroactively to elections filed before November 29, 1999 if all taxpayers affected by the deemed transactions file consistently with this paragraph (g).

(h) *Effective date—(1) In general.* Except as otherwise provided in this section, the rules of this section are applicable as of January 1, 1997.

(2) *Prior treatment of existing entities.* In the case of a business entity that is not described in § 301.7701-2(b) (1), (3), (4), (5), (6), or (7), and that was in existence prior to January 1, 1997, the entity's claimed classification(s) will be respected for all periods prior to January 1, 1997, if—

(i) The entity had a reasonable basis (within the meaning of section 6662) for its claimed classification;

(ii) The entity and all members of the entity recognized the federal tax consequences of any change in the entity's classification within the sixty months prior to January 1, 1997; and

(iii) Neither the entity nor any member was notified in writing on or before May 8, 1996, that the classification of the entity was under examination (in which case the entity's classification will be determined in the examination).

[T.D. 8697, 61 FR 66590, Dec. 18, 1996; 62 FR 11769, Mar. 13, 1997, as amended by T.D. 8767, 63 FR 14619, Mar. 26, 1998; T.D. 8827, 64 FR 37678, July 13, 1999; 64 FR 58782, Nov. 1, 1999; T.D. 8844, 64 FR 66583, Nov. 29, 1999; T.D. 8970, 66 FR 64912, Dec. 17, 2001; T.D. 9093, 68 FR 60298, Oct. 22, 2003; T.D. 9100, 68 FR 70709, Dec. 19, 2003]

§ 301.7701-3T Classification of certain business entities (temporary).

(a) through (c)(1)(i) [Reserved]. For further guidance, see § 301.7701-3(a) through (c)(1)(i).

(ii) *Further notification of elections.* An eligible entity required to file a federal tax or information return for the taxable year for which an election is made under § 301.7701-3(c)(1)(i) must attach a copy of its Form 8832 to its federal tax or information return for that year. If the entity is not required to file a return for that year, a copy of its Form 8832 ("Entity Classification Election") must be attached to the federal income tax or information return of any direct or indirect owner of the entity for the taxable year of the owner that includes the date on which the election was effective. An indirect owner of the entity does not have to attach a copy of the Form 8832 to its return if an entity in which it has an interest is already filing a copy of the Form 8832 with its return. If an entity, or one of its direct or indirect owners, fails to attach a copy of a Form 8832 to its return as directed in this section, an otherwise valid election under § 301.7701-3(c)(1)(i) will not be invalidated, but the non-filing party may be subject to penalties, including any applicable penalties if the federal tax or information returns are inconsistent with the entity's election under § 301.7701-3(c)(1)(i). In the case of returns for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2002, the copy of Form 8832 attached to a return pursuant to this paragraph (c)(1)(ii) is not required to be a signed copy.

(c)(1)(iii) through (h) [Reserved]. For further guidance, see § 301.7701-3(c)(1)(iii) through (h).

[T.D. 9100, 68 FR 70709, Dec. 19, 2003]

§ 301.7701-4 Trusts.

(a) *Ordinary trusts.* In general, the term "trust" as used in the Internal Revenue Code refers to an arrangement created either by a will or by an inter vivos declaration whereby trustees take title to property for the purpose of protecting or conserving it for the beneficiaries under the ordinary rules applied in chancery or probate courts. Usually the beneficiaries of such a