

administrative review by the last day of the fifth anniversary month.

Within the specified time frame, we received an objection from a domestic interested party to our intent to revoke this countervailing duty order. Therefore, because the requirements of 19 CFR 355.25(d)(4)(iii) have not been met, we will not revoke the order.

This determination is in accordance with 19 CFR 355.25(d)(4).

Dated: January 25, 1995.

Joseph A. Spetrini,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Compliance.
[FR Doc. 95-2355 Filed 1-30-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DS-P

Intent To Revoke Countervailing Duty Orders

AGENCY: Import Administration, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of intent to revoke countervailing duty orders.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce (the Department) is notifying the public of its intent to revoke the countervailing duty orders listed below. Domestic interested parties who object to revocation of any of these orders must submit their comments in writing not later than the last day of February 1995.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 31, 1995.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Brian Albright or Melanie Brown, Office of Countervailing Compliance, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, D.C. 20230; telephone: (202) 482-2786.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Department may revoke a countervailing duty order if the Secretary of Commerce concludes that it is no longer of interest to interested parties. Accordingly, as required by the Department's regulations (at 19 CFR 355.25(d)(4)), we are notifying the public of our intent to revoke the countervailing duty orders listed below, for which the Department has not received a request to conduct an administrative review for the most recent four consecutive annual anniversary months.

In accordance with § 355.25(d)(4)(iii) of the Department's regulations, if no domestic interested party (as defined in §§ sections 355.2(i)(3), (i)(4), (i)(5), and (i)(6) of the regulations) objects to the Department's intent to revoke these orders pursuant to this notice, and no

interested party (as defined in § 355.2(i) of the regulations) requests an administrative review in accordance with the Department's notice of opportunity to request administrative review, we shall conclude that the countervailing duty orders are no longer of interest to interested parties and proceed with the revocations. However, if an interested party does request an administrative review in accordance with the Department's notice of opportunity to request administrative review, or a domestic interested party does object to the Department's intent to revoke pursuant to this notice, the Department will not revoke the order.

Countervailing Duty Orders	
Peru: Cotton Sheeting and Sateen (C-331-001).	02/01/83 48 FR 4501
Thailand: Malleable Iron Pipe Fittings (C-549-803).	02/10/89 54 FR 6439

Opportunity to Object

Not later than the last day of February 1995, domestic interested parties may object to the Department's intent to revoke these countervailing duty orders. Any submission objecting to the revocation must contain the name and case number of the order and a statement that explains how the objecting party qualifies as a domestic interested party under §§ 355.2(i)(3), (i)(4), (i)(5), or (i)(6) of the Department's regulations.

Seven copies of any such objections should be submitted to the Assistant Secretary for Import Administration, International Trade Administration, Room B-099, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, D.C. 20230.

This notice is in accordance with 19 CFR 355.25(d)(4)(i).

Dated: January 25, 1995.

Joseph A. Spetrini,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Compliance.
[FR Doc. 95-2354 Filed 1-30-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DS-P

National Institute of Standards and Technology

[Docket No. 941256-4356]

National Voluntary Conformity Assessment Systems Evaluation (NVCASE) Program

AGENCY: National Institute of Standards and Technology, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of request for public comments.

SUMMARY: This is to advise the public that the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) has received a request from the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) to have its Accreditation Program for Certification Programs and the ANSI/RAB American National Accreditation Program for Registrars of Quality Systems recognized under the NIST National Voluntary Conformity Assessment Systems Evaluation (NVCASE) Program for specified European Union (EU) Directives and Mexican regulations relating to securing Mexican Certification Mark (NOM) certificates.

DATES: Comments on this request must be received by March 2, 1995.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be submitted in writing to Mr. Robert L. Gladhill, Program Manager, NVCASE, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Building 417, Room 107, Gaithersburg, MD 20899 or by telefax at 301-963-2971.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Either Mr. John L. Donaldson, Chief, Standards Code and Information, or Robert L. Gladhill, NVCASE Program Manager, in writing at NIST, 417/107, Gaithersburg, MD 20899, by telephone at 301-975-4029 or by telefax at 301-963-2871.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: NIST received a letter from ANSI, dated May 10, 1994 requesting general recognition under the NVCASE program. Under the procedures at 15 CFR Part 286, NIST may grant recognition to organizations only for performing specific activities covered under a specific mandatory foreign regulatory requirement(s). The ANSI letter was acknowledged by NIST in a letter dated July 12, 1994. In that letter ANSI was requested to submit additional information identifying the pertinent regulatory requirements for which it desires to gain recognition as competent to satisfy conformity assessment requirements.

NIST received a second letter from ANSI, dated October 21, 1994, which provided a list of general European Union Directives and a reference to Mexican NOMs. The two letters are reproduced below.

May 10, 1994

John Donaldson,
*Chief, Standards Code and Information,
National Institute of Standards &
Technology, Building 101, Rm. A629,
Gaithersburg, MD 20899*

Re: Reference Docket No. 920363-4058,
Establishment of the National Voluntary
Conformity Assessment System
Evaluation Program

Dear John: Congratulations on completing and publishing (59 FR 19129, April 22, 1994) the Final Rule establishing the National

Voluntary Conformity Assessment System Evaluation (NVCASE) Program. ANSI believes NVCASE has potential to promote U.S. products' access to foreign markets when foreign governments insist on U.S. government assurance that U.S. conformity assessment organizations are competent to satisfy the foreign regulatory requirements. NIST recognition of ANSI's accreditation service for certification programs and the ANSI-RAB American National Accreditation Program for Registrars of Quality Systems could, for example, help in the situation where the European Commission requests a government assurance of the competence of conformity assessment organizations who desire to participate in government to government Mutual Recognition Agreements. The ANSI and ANSI-RAB national accreditation programs are based on the same technical criteria that generally appear in the European directives relating to competence of notified bodies appointed by Member States.

ANSI, RAB and the private sector have invested heavily in establishing the ANSI and ANSI-RAB accreditation programs to respond to marketplace needs. The essence of both accreditation programs is an initial and on-going assessment of the competence of a conformity assessment activity to international criteria in order to promote U.S. national and global marketplace acceptance of the work of the accredited conformity assessment activities. Through bilateral, regional and international discussions with counterpart national accreditation practices and an internationally-based system for global acceptance of product certifications and quality system registrations. NVCASE recognition will nicely complement these on-going private sector initiatives when a foreign government insists on U.S. government involvement in the process.

There, please consider this as a formal request under Section 286.7 for *recognition* of the ANSI Accreditation Program for Certification and the ANSI-RAB American National Accreditation Program for Registrars of Quality Systems. If NVCASE is not yet accepting applications for recognition, then please consider this a notice of intention to seek such recognition, and please send whatever forms are necessary as soon as they are available. Please let us know the fees to be submitted under Section 286.7(a)(2). Also, can you estimate the remaining balance to secure recognition?

Please send as soon as possible the "documented generic requirements to be applied in evaluations related to accreditation and recognition within the scope of the program," mentioned in Section 286.5. Sections 286.5 and 286.6 state that "generic requirements are developed with public input, and "input is also sought from workshops." To the extent that such generic requirements are still in development, ANSI and RAB offer whatever assistance you may find helpful in organizing workshops or other means to facilitate "public input."

We were very pleased to see the discussion in the preamble relating to the purpose of NVCASE to limit NVCASE to only those procedures necessary to meet foreign governments' requirements (Section 286.1).

NVCASE "recognition" procedures should not exceed that required by the foreign government. As a generalization, the criteria for competence of European notified bodies as contained in the European directives are the same criteria used in the ANSI and ANSI-RAB accreditation programs. There may be only small variations needed in our accreditation programs depending upon any unique competence criteria identified in a particular European directive. The European directives place the obligation on Member States to name only "competent" notified bodies. The Member States often (though this is not a requirement) depend upon their relevant national accreditation system for an independent assessment of that competence. We see NVCASE essentially creating a similar relationship between our accreditation programs and the U.S. government. Based on our interactions with European national accreditation organizations through the European Accreditation of Certification (EAC) and International Accreditation Forum (IAF) we have learned that the national accreditation organizations' relationships with their respective governments are best described as cooperative or collaborative. In some cases the accreditation body is an agency of government. In other cases it is a quasi non-governmental organization whose recommendations result in a government accreditation. In some cases it is a private sector organization whose accreditations are unilaterally considered by government in appointments of notified bodies. In all cases of which we are aware, the accreditation program derives (or derived during its initial stages) significant public sector funding. Thus, we request that you give strong consideration in the NVCASE procedures applicable to recognizing such accreditation programs as ours to the cooperative and facilitate relationships that exist between the European national accreditation programs and their corresponding governments. Our European accreditation counterparts are not faced with a "regulatory" relationship with their governments, but instead one in which the governments just utilize (to a greater or lesser extent in any particular Member State) the results of the accreditation in their appointment of notified bodies.

We in the United States could undermine our competitive position internationally rather than advance it if the NVCASE recognition procedures for our accreditation programs generated significant additional costs for our national accreditation programs that will have to be born by the accredited organizations and their U.S. industrial clients. Our accreditation peers in Europe have received government subsidies for the equivalent accreditation service. Significant extra costs for NVCASE recognition would just exacerbate this competitive issue for U.S. conformity assessment programs.

ANSI and RAB intend to offer the ANSI and the ANSI-RAB accreditation programs as a generic mechanism that could be used as the competence demonstrating component in any particular government to government negotiation of Mutual Recognition Agreements. Thus, we were grateful to note that the NVCASE programs would only

operate at the accreditation level if (among several conditions) there is no satisfactory accreditation alternative available and the private sector has declined to make acceptable accreditation available (Section 286.2(2)). Our programs are striving to fill this need for an acceptable private sector accreditation mechanism and we envision few, if any situations that could not be addressed by our programs. For NVCASE to offer an accreditation program competing with our private sector efforts would be inappropriate and inconsistent with the concepts in OMB Circular A76 relating to government use of commercially available services.

ANSI and RAB look forward to a close and cooperative working relationship with NIST in pursuing our common objective of assisting U.S. suppliers in meeting foreign technical regulatory requirements on a cost effective basis.

Sincerely,

George T. Willingmyre, P.E.,
Vice President, Washington Operations.

cc: S. Mazza
ANSI Board Committee on Conformity
Assessment
G. Lofgren, RAB

October 21, 1994.

John Donaldson,
Chief, Standards Code and Information,
National Institute of Standards &
Technology, Building 101, Room A-629,
Gaithersburg, MD 20899

Dear John: This is an addendum to our May 10 formal application for recognition of the ANSI Accreditation Program for Certification Programs and the ANSI-RAB American National Accreditation Program for Registrars of Quality Systems under the National Voluntary Conformity Assessment System Evaluation (NVCASE) program. Our original application is included for reference as Appendix A.

You indicated in your July 12 letter (Appendix B) that we should identify the foreign regulations for which our accreditation programs seek recognition. Based upon interest from currently accredited quality system registrars and product certification programs and industry sectors with high priority for on-going government to government mutual recognition agreement negotiations, the list of European Directives and foreign regulations is provided at Appendix C. Please note that our accreditation programs are designed to mirror the national accreditation programs in Europe and Mexico which use generic criteria to establish the competence of quality system registration or product certification programs no matter what the industry sector. Thus we would expect that NVCASE recognition granted for one program area could be easily extended to other areas without major extra effort or cost.

You also noted that International Guides relevant to competence of quality system registration and product certification accreditation programs are not yet final. Because of the importance of moving forward quickly in the interest of continued American competitiveness, ANSI recommends

utilization of the relevant DRAFT guides in the interim period before the ISO Guides are published.

ANSI and the Registrar Accreditation Board look forward to taking the next steps in the NVCASE recognition process as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

George T. Willingmyre, P.E.,
Vice President, Washington Operations.

cc: S. Mazza

ANSI Board Committee on Conformity
Assessment

G. Lofgren

Appendix A—May 10, 1994 Letter.

Appendix B—NIST Reply— Acknowledgement.

Appendix C

European Directives and Regulation of the government of Mexico for which the American National Accreditation Program for Registrars of Quality Systems seeks recognition under the National Voluntary Conformity Assessment System Evaluation (NVCASE) program

- Active Implantable Medical Devices
- Medical Devices
- Telecommunications Terminal

Equipment

- Gas Appliances
- Simple Pressure Vessels
- Machinery
- Mexican Regulation relating to securing

the NOM certificates published in the Official Journal of Mexico June 14, 1994

European Directives for which the ANSI Accreditation Program for Certification Programs seeks recognition under the National Voluntary Conformity Assessment System Evaluation (NVCASE) program.

- Recreational Craft
- Personal Protective Equipment
- Gas Appliances
- Lawnmower Noise

Interested persons should submit comments in writing to the above address. Contingent upon comments received, NIST will schedule public workshops to define general and specific criteria for each of the programs requested. All comments received in response to this notice will become part of the public record and will be available for inspection and copying at the Commerce Department Records and Inspection facility, room 6020, Hoover Building, Washington, DC 20230.

Date: January 24, 1995.

Samuel Kramer,

Associate Director.

[FR Doc. 95-2327 Filed 1-30-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-13-M

[Docket No. 941255-4355]

National Voluntary Conformity Assessment Systems Evaluation (NVCASE) Program

AGENCY: National Institute of Standards and Technology, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of request for public comments.

SUMMARY: This is to advise the public that the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) has received a request from the American Association for Laboratory Accreditation (A2LA) to have its Laboratory Accreditation Program recognized under the NIST National Voluntary Conformity Assessment Systems Evaluation (NVCASE) Program for specified European Union (EU) Directives for electromagnetic compatibility.

DATES: Comments on this request must be received by 30 days March 2, 1995.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be submitted in writing to Mr. Robert L. Gladhill, Program Manager, NVCASE, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Building 417, Room 107, Gaithersburg, MD 20899 or by telefax at 301-963-2871.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Either Mr. John L. Donaldson, Chief, Standards Code and Information, or Robert L. Gladhill, NVCASE Program Manager, in writing at NIST, 417/107, Gaithersburg, MD 20899, by telephone at 301-975-4029 or by telefax at 301-963-2871.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The NVCASE procedures at 15 CFR Part 286 require NIST to seek public consultation when it receives requests for evaluation. This notice therefore is a solicitation for comments on the A2LA request which follows:

September 9, 1994.

Mr. John L. Donaldson,
Chief, Standards Code and Information
Program, National Institute of Standards
and Technology (NIST), Gaithersburg,
MD 20899

Dear Mr. Donaldson, The American Association for Laboratory Accreditation (A2LA) hereby applies to NIST to be evaluated so as to be recognized as a competently conducted conformation assessment activity according to the rules and regulations published in the **Federal Register**, Vol. 59, No. 78, on April 22, 1994.

This request is for the evaluation of the A2LA laboratory accreditation program in response to [(iii * * * specific U.S. industrial or technical need, relative to a mandatory foreign technical requirement)]. The industrial or technical need covered is for recognition to accredit laboratories for testing electromagnetic compatibility under 89/336/EEC and telecommunications terminal equipment under 91/263/EEC.

We already have accredited laboratories for some tests in this area but wish to be in compliance with the EEC requirements which will be necessary to meet the developing Mutual Recognition Agreement requirements being developed between the U.S. and the EU. We look forward to hearing

from you shortly, giving us more explicit instructions on how we might proceed.

Sincerely,

John W. Locke,
President.

cc: Charles Ludolph, DOC

Interested persons should submit comments in writing to the above address. Contingent upon the comments received, NIST will schedule public workshops to define general and specific criteria for the requested program. All comments submitted in response to this notice will become part of the public record and will be available for inspection and copying at the Commerce Department Records and Inspection facility, room 6020, Hoover Building, Washington, DC 20230.

Dated: January 24, 1995.

Samuel Kramer,

Associate Director.

[FR Doc. 95-2328 Filed 1-30-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-13-M

[Docket Number 950106006-5006-01;
Notice 2]

National Fire Codes: Request for Proposals for Revision of Standards

AGENCY: National Institute of Standards and Technology, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of request for proposals.

SUMMARY: The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) proposes to revise some of its fire safety standards and requests proposals from the public to amend existing NFPA fire safety standards. The purpose of this request is to increase public participation in the system used by NFPA to develop its standards. The publication of this notice of request for proposals by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) on behalf of NFPA is being undertaken as a public service; NIST does not necessarily endorse, approve, or recommend any of the standards referenced in the notice.

DATES: Interested persons may submit proposals on or before the dates listed with the standards.

ADDRESSES: Arthur E. Cote, P.E., Secretary, Standards Council, NFPA, 1 Battery March Park, P.O. Box 9101, Quincy, Massachusetts 02269-9101.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Arthur E. Cote, P.E., Secretary, Standards Council, at above address, (617) 770-3000.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) develops fire safety