Processing Standards (FIPS). The head of such agency may re-delegate such authority only to a senior official designated pursuant to section 3506(b) of Title 44, U.S. Code. Waivers shall be granted only when:

a. Compliance with a standard would adversely affect the accomplishment of the mission of an operator of a Federal computer system, or

b. Cause a major adverse financial impact on the operator which is not offset by Governmentwide savings.

Agency heads may act upon a written waiver request containing the information detailed above. Agency heads may also act without a written waiver request when they determine that conditions for meeting the standard cannot be met. Agency heads may approve waivers only by a written decision which explains the basis on which the agency head made the required finding(s). A copy of each such decision, with procurement sensitive classified portions clearly identified, shall be sent to: National Institute of Standards and Technology, ATTN: FIPS Waiver Decisions, Technology Building, Room B–154, Gaithersburg, MD 20899.

In addition, notice of each waiver granted and each delegation of authority to approve waivers shall be sent promptly to the Committee on Government Operations of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Governmental Affairs of the Senate and shall be published promptly in the **Federal Register**.

When the determination on a waiver applies to the procurement of equipment and/or services, a notice of the waiver determination must be published in the Commerce Business Daily as a part of the notice of solicitation for offers of an acquisition or, if the waiver determination is made after that notice is published, by amendment to such notice.

A copy of the waiver, any supporting documents, the document approving the waiver and any supporting and accompanying documents, with such deletions as the agency is authorized and decides to make under 5 U.S.C. Section 552(b), shall be part of the procurement documentation and retained by the agency.

[FR Doc. 95–13765 Filed 6–5–95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–CN–M

[Docket No. 950411101–5101–01]

RIN 0693–XX07

Proposed Federal Information Processing Standard (FIPS) for Standard for the Exchange of Product Model Data (STEP)

AGENCY: National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice; request for comments.

SUMMARY: NIST is proposing a FIPS for STEP that will adopt the voluntary industry specification, International Organization for Standardization (ISO) Product Data Representation and Exchange, ISO 10303:1994.

STEP defines and describes all product data used during the manufacturing life-cycle of a product, the production steps needed to make a product and the order in which they occur. STEP provides a representation of product information along with the necessary mechanisms and definitions to enable product data to be archived, exchanged, or shared among data bases. The STEP specifications are organized as a series of parts, each published separately. Support for specific applications is provided through application protocols (AP). An AP specifies the information requirements for data exchange, the data representation, and the conformance requirements to support the application.

This proposed FIPS contains two sections: (1) An announcement section, which provides information concerning the applicability, implementation, and maintenance of the standard; and (2) a specification section. Only the announcement section of the standard is provided in this notice. Interested parties may obtain copies of the ISO 10303:1994 from the National Computer Graphics Association, 2722 Merrilee Drive, Suite 200, Fairfax, VA 22031, telephone: (703) 698–9600.

DATES: Comments on this proposed standard must be received on or before September 5, 1995.

ADDRESSES: Written comments concerning the adoption of this proposed standard should be sent to: Director, Computer Systems Laboratory, ATTN: Proposed FIPS for STEP, Technology Building, Room B154, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, MD 20899.

Written comments received in response to this notice will be made part of the public record and will be made available for inspection and copying in the Central Reference and Records Inspection Facility, Room 6020, Herbert C. Hoover Building, 14th Street between Pennsylvania and Constitution Avenues NW., Washington, DC 20230.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Lynne Rosenthal, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, MD 20899, telephone: (301) 975–3353.

Dated: May 31, 1995.

Samuel Kramer,

Associate Director.

Proposed Federal Information Processing Standards Publication

————

(Date)

Announcing the Standard for Product Data Representation and Exchange (STEP)

Federal Information Processing Standards Publications (FIPS PUBS) are issued by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) after approval by the Secretary of Commerce pursuant to Section 111(d) of the Federal Property and Administration Services Act of 1949 as amended by the Computer Security Act of 1987, Public Law 100–235.

1. Name of Standard. Product Data Representation and Exchange, commonly known as the Standard for the Exchange of Product model data (STEP) (FIPS PUB _____).

2. Category of Standard. Software standard; Product data representation and exchange; industrial automation systems and integration.

3. Explanation. This publication adopts the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 10303: 1994, Product Data Representation and Exchange standard as a Federal Information Processing Standard (FIPS). ISO 10303, more commonly known as STEP, Standard for the Exchange of Product model data, defines a neutral computer-interpretable representation for describing product data in a manner that is independent from any particular system. ISO 10303 specifies the necessary mechanisms and definitions to enable product data throughout the life cycle of a product, to be exchange, archived, or shared among product databases.

The purpose of the FIPS for STEP is to enable the compatible exchange and sharing of product definition data used by a wide range of dissimilar computer-aided design (CAD), engineering, manufacturing and product support applications. The specification provides a neutral format for the exchange and sharing of digital three-dimensional (3D) vector and solid representations for a stated application context. Two-dimensional (2D) vector representation

and the projection of a 3D representation into 2D views is also supported.

Support for specific applications is provided through an Application Protocol (AP). An AP specifies the information requirements for data exchange, the data representation, and the conformance requirements to support the application. APs are defined in ISO 10303.

ISO 10303 is organized as a series of parts, each published separately. ISO 10303–1 presents an overview of ISO 10303 and specifies the functions of the various series of parts and the relationships among them. ISO 10303–31 presents a framework and principles for the conformance testing of implementations of ISO 10303. This FIPS PUB adopts all ISO 10303 parts. However, the parts of ISO 10303 required for implementation and conformance are determined by the AP specification (ISO 10303 200-series documents). Associated with each application protocol is an abstract test suite (ISO 10303 1200 series documents) that specifies the test purposes and verdict criteria which implementations are to be evaluated against.

This FIPS PUB is the beginning of a continuing effort to identify appropriate application protocols that can be used by both vendors and users to specify the information requirements for data exchange of specific end-user applications. This first FIPS for STEP identifies the APs presently required for Federal use. Future APs which are deemed necessary to satisfy Federal user requirements will be added by revision (i.e., change notice in the **Federal Register**) to this FIPS PUB.

4. Approving Authority. Secretary of Commerce.

5. Maintenance Agency. Department of Commerce, National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), Manufacturing Engineering Laboratory (MEL).

6. Cross Index. a. International Organization for Standardization (ISO), Product Data Representation and Exchange, ISO 10303:1994:

—Part 1, Overview and fundamental principles;
—Part 11, Description methods: The EXPRESS language reference manual;
—Part 21, Implementation methods: Clear text encoding of the exchange structure;
—Part 31, Conformance testing methodology and framework; General concepts;
—Part 41, Integrated generic resources: Fundamentals of product description and support;

—Part 42, Integrated generic resources: Geometric and topological representation;
—Part 43, Integrated generic resources: Representation structures;
—Part 44, Integrated generic resources: Product structure configuration;
—Part 46, Integrated generic resources: Visual presentation;
—Part 101, Integrated application resources: Draughting;
—Part 201, Application protocol: Explicit draughting;
—Part 203, Application protocol: Configuration controlled design.

7. Related Documents. a. Federal Information Resources Management Regulations (FIRMR) subpart 201–20.303, Standards, and subpart 201–39.1002, Federal Standards, April 1992.

b. Federal ADP and Telecommunications Standards Index, U.S. General Services Administration, Information Resources Management Service, October 1994 (updated periodically).

c. NISTIR 4743, Issues, Requirements, and Recommendations for a STEP Conformance Testing Program.

d. NISTIR 5511 STEP On-line Information System (SOLIS).

e. NISTIR 5535 Initial NIST Testing Policy for STEP.

8. Objectives. The primary objectives of this standard are:

—To reduce the overall life-cycle cost for digital systems by establishing a common exchange format for storing, transferring, accessing and archiving product data digitally across organizational boundaries and independent from any particular system.
—To promote the exchange of product data thereby enabling installations to share data, and reduce time spent in efforts to regenerate product data.
—To specify Application Protocols that can be used by Federal departments and agencies to support exchange of product data.
—To protect the capital investment of users of the standard by ensuring to the extent possible that commercial off-the-shelf products meet the requirements in the standard, thereby providing a know capability which can be expected of any certified product.

9. Applicability. a. This standard is intended for the computer-interpretable representation and exchange of product data used in computer aided design, analysis, manufacture, test and inspection. The FIPS for STEP provides a mechanism for the digital exchange of life cycle product information as well as implementing and sharing product databases and archiving.

b. Implementations acquired for government use which purport to create or read STEP product information shall contain a conforming STEP processor.

c. This FIPS for STEP shall be used when the requirements of the agency's application are satisfied by at least one of the APs specified herein and one or more of the following situations exist:

—A method for complete representation of products through the entire manufacturing process is required.
—The product data is to be used and maintained on different systems.
—A physical file representing product data is to be exchanged between systems.
—An interface to product databases for accessing and sharing data is required.
—The product data is or is likely to be used by organizations outside the Federal Government.
—It is desired to have the product data understood by multiple people, groups, or organizations.

d. The use of an application protocol is required for all implementations of STEP. An AP specifies the scope, context, information requirements, representation of the application information, and conformance requirements. APs are developed by domain experts for the purpose of defining the processes, information flows, and functional requirements of an application. Initial release of FIPS for STEP includes one application protocol, applicable for the exchange of configuration controlled 3D product design data.

—ISO 10303–203: Application protocol: Configuration controlled 3D design of mechanical parts and assemblies is required for applications which exchange or sharing of data pertaining to the shape representation of a part or product, configuration control and management, and description of the bill of material structure of a product within its design phase. Integral to the definition of a mechanical product is the specification of its shape, the specification of its configurations and the applicability of its possibly multiple definitions to a particular configuration. The focus is on the data from the design phase which controls the tracking and management of the product, including the following:
—identification of a product and the link of the design identification of the components which comprise the product;
—the documentation of formal change and release of designs for the product, including the design and change history;

—the structured relationship of each of the components to the product as a whole;
—additional information concerning materials, processes, finishes, other design requirements and the identification of qualified suppliers for the product or the design of the product.

Other stages of the life cycle of a product are not addressed by this part.

10. Specifications. The ISO 10303:1994 standard for STEP, provides a representation of product information along with the necessary mechanisms and definitions to enable product data to be exchanged. ISO 10303–1: Overview and general principles defines concepts which apply to the entire standard. ISO 10303 is divided into six series of parts, each series may have one or more parts. The series are as follows:
—Description methods—Part 10 series which includes part 11 that defines the data specification language used by ISO 10303;
—Integrated resources: Generic resources—Part 40 series; Application resources—Part 100 series;
—Application protocols—Part 200 series;
—Conformance testing methodology and framework—Part 30 series;
—Abstract test suites—Part 1200 series, each of which corresponds to an associated application protocol;
—Implementation methods—Part 20 series.

Conformance of an implementation to an application protocol is specified by the conformance requirements within the application protocol. The AP requires at least one implementation method, and references other parts of ISO 10303 for additional conformance requirements. Within an AP, conformance requirements may be grouped into conformance classes. An implementation may conform to one or more conformance class. The scope of conformance testing of a specific implementation is the requirements specified for the conformance class(es) claimed for the implementation in the Protocol Implementation Conformance Statement (i.e., a statement of which capabilities and options are supported within an implementation).

11. Implementation. The implementation of this standard involves four areas of consideration: effective date, acquisition, interpretations, and validation.

11.1 Effective Date. This publication is effective six (6) months after date of publication of final announcement in the **Federal Register**. A transition period of twelve (12) months, beginning on the effective date, allows industry to produce STEP implementations conforming to this standard. Agencies are encouraged to use this standard for solicitation proposals during the transition period. This standard is mandatory for use in all solicitation proposals for STEP implementations (i.e., computer-aided design, engineering, and manufacturing systems) acquired twelve (12) months after the effective date.

11.2 Acquisition. The use of application protocols is required for all STEP implementations. ISO 10303–203 is required for applications which exchange between product data application systems of configuration-controlled 3D designs of mechanical parts and assemblies.

Conformance to this standard should be considered whether the STEP preprocessor or postprocessor are developed internally, acquired as part of a system procurement, acquired by separate procurement, used under a leasing arrangement, or specified for use in contract for programming services.

11.3 Interpretation. Resolution of questions regarding this standard will be provided by NIST. Procedures for interpretations are specified in FIPS PUB 29–3. Questions concerning the content and specifications should be addressed to: Director, Computer Systems Laboratory, ATTN: STEP Interpretation, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, MD 20899.

11.4 Validation. The following requirements for conformance testing of STEP implementations become effective twelve months after the effective date. Validation requirements apply only to the application protocols required for use by this FIPS PUB. Additional validation requirements may be added in the future as new application protocols complete the standardization process and corresponding executable test suites are developed.

a. The party offering a STEP implementation to ensure its conformance to FIPS for STEP shall be responsible for securing validation of the STEP implementation when it is offered to the Government for purchase, lease, or use in connection with ADP services. STEP implementations shall be validated in accordance with National Institute for Standards and Technology (NIST) Computer Systems Laboratory (CSL) Validation Procedures for the STEP Validation Test Service.

b. To confirm that the specifications of FIPS for STEP have been met, STEP executable test suites have been developed and a STEP–AP 203 Validation Testing Service has been established. Conformance testing shall be performed by either the NIST or a test laboratory accredited by the National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program (NVLAP). Upon request, the CSL will provide a list of test laboratories.

c. Federal agencies shall use the test results of the STEP Validation Testing Service to confirm that a particular STEP implementation meets the specifications of this FIPS PUB. The CSL will issue certificates as specified in the NIST CSL Validation Procedures for the STEP Validation Testing Service.

d. Recommended procurement terminology for validation of FIPS for STEP is contained in the U.S. General Services Administration publication Federal ADP & Telecommunications Standards Index, Chapter 4 Part 2. This GSA publication provides terminology for three validation options: Delayed Validation, Prior Validation Testing, and Prior Validation. The agency may select the appropriate validation option and may specify appropriate time frames for validation and correction of nonconformities.

e. Request for, and questions on STEP Validation Testing Services should be addressed to: Director, Computer Systems Laboratory, Attention: STEP Validation Testing Service, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, MD 20899 Telephone: (301)975–3353.

12. Waivers. Under certain exceptional circumstances, the heads of Federal departments and agencies may approve waivers to Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS). The head of such agency may redelegate such authority only to a senior official designated pursuant to section 3506(b) of Title 44, U.S. Code. Waivers shall be granted only when:

a. Compliance with a standard would adversely affect the accomplishment of the mission of an operator of a Federal computer system, or

b. Cause a major adverse financial impact on the operator which is not offset by Government wide savings.

Agency heads may act upon a written waiver request containing the information detailed above. Agency heads may also act without a written waiver request when they determine that conditions for meeting the standard cannot be met. Agency heads may approve waivers only by a written decision which explains the basis on which the agency head made the required finding(s). A copy of each such decision, with procurement sensitive or classified portions clearly identified, shall be sent to: National Institute of

Standards and Technology; ATTN: FIPS Waiver Decisions, Technology Building, Room B–154; Gaithersburg, MD 20899.

In addition, notice of each waiver granted and each delegation of authority to approve waivers shall be sent promptly to the Committee on Government Operations of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Governmental Affairs of the Senate and shall be published promptly in the **Federal Register**.

When the determination on a waiver applies to the procurement of equipment and/or services, a notice of the waiver determination must be published in the Commerce Business Daily as a part of the notice of solicitation for offers of an acquisition or, if the waiver determination is made after that notice is published, by amendment to such notice.

A copy of the waiver, any supporting documents, the document approving the waiver and any supporting and accompanying documents, with such deletions as the agency is authorized and decides to make under 5 U.S.C. Sec. 552(b), shall be part of the procurement documentation and retained by the agency.

[FR Doc. 95–13769 Filed 6–5–95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–CN–M

COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

Adjustment of Import Limits for Certain Cotton, Wool and Man-Made Fiber Textile Products Produced or Manufactured in the Dominican Republic

May 31, 1995.

AGENCY: Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements (CITA).

ACTION: Issuing a directive to the Commissioner of Customs increasing limits.

EFFECTIVE DATE: June 7, 1995.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ross Arnold, International Trade Specialist, Office of Textiles and Apparel, U.S. Department of Commerce, (202) 482–4212. For information on the quota status of these limits, refer to the Quota Status Reports posted on the bulletin boards of each Customs port or call (202) 927–5850. For information on embargoes and quota re-openings, call (202) 482–3715.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority: Executive Order 11651 of March 3, 1972, as amended; section 204 of the Agricultural Act of 1956, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1854).

The current limits for certain categories are being increased for carryover.

A description of the textile and apparel categories in terms of HTS numbers is available in the CORRELATION: Textile and Apparel Categories with the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (see **Federal Register** notice 59 FR 65531, published on December 20, 1994). Also see 60 FR 17321, published on April 5, 1995.

The letter to the Commissioner of Customs and the actions taken pursuant to it are not designed to implement all of the provisions of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act and the Uruguay Round Agreement on Textiles and Clothing, but are designed to assist only in the implementation of certain of their provisions.

Rita D. Hayes,

Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements

May 31, 1995.

Commissioner of Customs,

Department of the Treasury, Washington, DC 20229.

Dear Commissioner: This directive amends, but does not cancel, the directive issued to you on March 30, 1995, by the Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements. That directive concerns imports of certain cotton, wool and man-made fiber textile products, produced or manufactured in the Dominican Republic and exported during the twelve-month period which began on January 1, 1995 and extends through December 31, 1995.

Effective on June 7, 1995, you are directed to increase the limits for the following categories, as provided under the Uruguay Round Agreements Act and the Uruguay Round Agreement on Textiles and Clothing:

Category	Adjusted twelve-month limit [1]
340/640	784,120 dozen.
342/642	551,803 dozen.
347/348/647/648	1,868,381 dozen of which not more than 991,636 dozen shall be in Categories 647/648.
351/651	852,513 dozen.
433	22,788 dozen.
442	78,671 dozen.
444	75,061 numbers.
633	106,861 dozen.

[1] The limits have not been adjusted to account for any imports exported after December 31, 1994.

The guaranteed access levels remain unchanged.

The Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements has determined that these actions fall within the foreign affairs exception to the rulemaking provisions of 5 U.S.C. 553(a)(1).

Sincerely,

Rita D. Hayes,

Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

[FR Doc. 95–13749 Filed 6–5–95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–DR–F

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Environmental Management Advisory Board

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Public Law 92–463, 86 Stat. 770), notice is hereby given of the following Advisory Committee meeting:

Name: Environmental Management Advisory Board Formerly Utilized Site Remedial Action Program Committee.

Date and Times:
Tuesday, June 20, 1995 from 8:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Wednesday, June 21, 1995 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Place: Henry VIII Hotel, 4690 North Lindbergh, St. Louis, MO 63044, (314) 731–3040, extension 6186, (314) 731–1228 fax.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: James T. Melillo, Executive Director, Environmental Management Advisory Board, EM–5, 1000 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, DC 20585, (202) 586–4400. The Internet address is: James.Melillo@em.doe.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Purpose of the Board. The purpose of the Board is to provide the Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management (EM) with advice and recommendations on issues confronting the Environmental Management program and the Programmatic Environmental Management Impact Statement, from the perspectives of affected groups and State and local Governments. The Board will help to improve the Environmental Management Program by assisting in the process of securing consensus recommendations, and providing the Department's numerous publics with opportunities to express their opinions regarding the Environmental Management Program including the Formerly Utilized Site Remedial Action Program.

Tentative Agenda

Tuesday, June 20, 1995

8:30 a.m.—Chairman Opens Public Meeting—Overview of Findings