

announcement would not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities because only a small portion of the industry will be directly affected.

This program contains a collection-of-information requirement subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA). The collection of this information has been approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), under OMB control number 0648-0288. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person is required to respond to nor shall a person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with a collection of information subject to the requirements of the PRA unless that collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Authority: Public Law 99-659 (16 U.S.C. 4107 *et seq.*); Public Law 102-396.

Dated: July 25, 1996.

Charles Karnella,

*Acting Director, Office of Management and Information, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 96-19539 Filed 7-26-96; 4:57 pm]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

## Patent and Trademark Office

### Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The Department of Commerce (DOC) has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. chapter 13).

*Agency:* Patent and Trademark Office (PTO).

*Title:* Patent Processing (Updating).

*Agency Approval Number:* 0651-0031.

*Form Numbers:* PTO/SB/08A/08B/09/10/11/12/21/22/23/24/25/26/31/32/42/43/61/61PCT/62/63/64/64PCT/67/68/69/91/92/93/97.

*Type of Request:* Revision of a currently approved collection.

*Burden:* 647,720 hours.

*Number of Respondents:* 364,000.

*Average Hours Per Response:*

- .1 hour for PTO/SB/22/32/92/93/97
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- .2 hour for PTO/SB/21/24/25/26/43/62/63/31/67/68/69/91
- .3 hour for PTO/SB/09/10/11/12
- .5 hour for PTO/SB/23
- 1 hour for PTO/SB/61/61PCT/64/64PCT
- 2 hours for PTO/SB/08A/08B/42

*Needs and Uses:* The purpose of this information collection is to permit the

PTO to determine whether a patent application during processing meets the criteria set forth in the patent statutes and regulations. The usage of the PTO forms, while not required, will ensure compliance with requirements and facilitate the automatic processing and digital image and/or optical character recognition scanning of application materials.

The information provided on the Information Disclosure forms (PTO/SB/08A/08B/42) will assist applicants in complying with the duty to disclose requirements of the patent statutes and regulations, and will further assist the PTO in examination of the application, and in maintaining pertinent information related to a patented file. The information provided on the Small Entity Status forms (PTO/SB/09/10/11/12) assist applicants, including independent inventors, small business concerns and non-profit organizations, to provide accurate and appropriate information to the Office in order to establish small entity status and thereby reduce their statutory fees as set forth in 35 U.S.C. 41 by 50 percent. The information provided on the Transmittal Form (PTO/SB/21) alerts the Patent and Trademark Office of the nature of the communication from the applicant relating to patent processing. The information on the Disclaimer forms (PTO/SB25/26/43/62/63) assists patentees in disclaiming any complete claim of a patent or the terminal part of the statutory term of a patent. The information provided on the Extension of Time forms (PTO/SB/22/23/32) assist applicants in deciding the length of extension of time requested in order to respond to Office communications having statutory periods for response. The information provided on the Petition To Revive forms (PTO/SB/61/61PCT/64/64PCT) outline what an applicant must do to revive a patent application which has become abandoned, either unintentionally or unavoidably. These forms spotlight the different criteria for the two scenarios, including the need for a fee, the required information for a proper response and whether small entity status is appropriate. The information on the Express Abandonment form (PTO/SB24) assists applicants in requesting abandonment of an application while at the same time reminding applicant of a continuing application which has been filed. The information provided on the Notice of Appeal form (PTO/SB/31) assists applicants for patents or owners of patents under reexamination in appealing the decision of the primary

examiner. The information provided on the Power to Inspect/Copy form (PTO/SB/67) assists applicants, counsel of record or the assignee to designate all third parties who are entitled to inspect/copy the application and the information on Request for Access of Abandoned Application form (PTO/SB/68) assists the public in supplying the appropriate information necessary to obtain the abandoned application file. The information on the Certificate of Mailing forms (PTO/SB/92/93) assist applicant in receiving, as the response date, the date on which response papers are deposited with the U.S. Postal Service or sent by facsimile transmission directly to the PTO. The information on the Petition Routing Slip (PTO/SB/69) assists in efficiently routing and expeditiously processing petition papers which have been filed at the PTO, and the information provided on the Deposit Account Order Form (PTO/SB/91) assists the PTO in processing orders for articles and/or services.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households, Business or other for-profit institutions, Not-for-profit institutions, Farms, State, Local or Tribal Government, and Federal Government.

*Frequency:* When filing response during the prosecution of a patent application.

*Respondent's Obligation:* Required to obtain or retain a benefit.

*OMB Desk Officer:* Maya A. Bernstein, (202) 395-4816.

Copies of the above information collection proposal can be obtained by calling or writing Linda Engelmeier, Acting DOC Forms Clearance Officer, (202) 482-3272, Department of Commerce, Room 5312, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to Maya Bernstein, OMB Desk Officer, Room 10236, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503.

Dated: June 25, 1996.

Linda Engelmeier,

*Acting Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of Management and Organization.*

[FR Doc. 96-19600 filed 7-31-96; 8:45 a.m.]

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