

June 1999. For a more complete description of the trade mission, obtain a copy of the mission statement from the Project Officer indicated below. The recruitment and selection of private sector participants for these missions will be conducted according to the Statement of Policy Governing Department of Commerce Overseas Trade Missions announced by Secretary Daley on March 3, 1997.

U.S. Corporate Executive Office at Interpack '99, Dusseldorf, Germany, May 6-12, 1999.

Recruitment closes March 31, 1999
For further information contact: April Stockfleet, Department of Commerce, Tel: 202-482-1599 Fax: 202-482-3159

U.S. Biotechnology Mission to Germany, Hamburg and Berlin/Brandenburg, June 7-11, 1999

Recruitment closes April 12, 1999
For further information contact: April Stockfleet, Department of Commerce, Tel: 202-482-1599 Fax: 202-482-3159

Franchising Trade Mission to South America, Brazil, Argentina, and Chile, June 9-17, 1999

Recruitment closes April 15, 1999
For further information contact: Richard Boll, Department of Commerce, Tel: 202-482-1135 Fax: 202-482-2669 or Bruce Harsh, Department of Commerce, Tel: 202-482-4582 Fax: 202-482-2669

Dated: March 5, 1999.

Tom Nisbet,

Director, Promotion Planning and Support Division, Office of Export Promotion Coordination.

[FR Doc. 99-6081 Filed 3-11-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DR-U

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Institute of Standards and Technology

Manufacturing Extension Partnership Program Center Performance Reporting

ACTION: Proposed collection; comment request.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or existing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1996, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506 (c)(2)(A)).

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before May 11, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Linda Engelmeier, Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 5327, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington DC 20230. Her "e" mail address is LEngel@doc.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed to: Margaret Phillips, Manufacturing Extension Partnership, Building 301, Room C-100, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Stop 4800, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20899; phone: (301) 975-4350, and fax: (301) 926-4340.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Abstract

This submission under the Paperwork Reduction Act represents a request for a new collection by the Department of Commerce's National Institute of Standards and Technology. The NIST MEP Center Performance Reporting is a series of data obtained from recipients of MEP center cooperative agreements to monitor and review past performance, analyze client results for reporting to local, state, and national stakeholders, and review and assess validity of future plans and objectives.

The Manufacturing Extension Partnership is a nationwide system of services and support for smaller manufacturers giving them unprecedented access to new technologies, resources, and expertise. Sponsored by the National Institute of Standards and Technology, the MEP is comprised of a network of locally based manufacturing extension centers working with small manufacturers to help them improve their manufacturing competitiveness.

Obtaining specific information from centers about the center performance levels, client results, and proposed future actions is essential for National Institute of Standards and Technology officials to evaluate center and program strengths and weaknesses and plan improvements in center and program effectiveness and efficiency.

Method of Collection

Data will be gathered using a combination of Web-based submission, electronic submission, and submission of written documents.

Data

OMB Number: N/A.
Form Number: N/A.

Type of Review: Regular Submission.
Affected Public: Businesses or other for-profit organizations, state or local government.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 75.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 3,000 hours.

Estimated Time Per Response (total for all submissions): 40 hours.

Estimated Annual Cost: There is no cost to respondents other than their time to respond to the survey.

IV. Requests for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: March 8, 1999.

Linda Engelmeier,

Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 99-6103 Filed 3-11-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 030899A]

International Whaling Commission; Meetings

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of public meetings.

SUMMARY: NOAA makes use of a public Interagency Committee to assist in preparing for meetings of the International Whaling Commission (IWC). This notice sets forth guidelines for participating on the Committee and a tentative schedule of meetings and of important dates.