

*Stainless Steel Wire Rod from India*, dated August 25, 1999).

The final results continue to be due 120 days after the publication of the preliminary results.

Dated: August 31, 1999.

**Joseph A. Spetrini**,

*Deputy Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.*

[FR Doc. 99-23432 Filed 9-8-99; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### International Trade Administration

#### University of California at Santa Barbara, et al.; Notice of Consolidated Decision on Applications for Duty-Free Entry of Electron Microscopes

This is a decision consolidated pursuant to Section 6(c) of the Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Materials Importation Act of 1966 (Pub. L. 89-651, 80 Stat. 897; 15 CFR part 301). Related records can be viewed between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. in Room 4211, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC.

*Docket Number:* 99-018. *Applicant:* University of California at Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara, CA 93106. *Instrument:* Electron Microscope, Model JEM-1230. *Manufacturer:* JEOL Ltd., Japan. *Intended Use:* See notice at 64 FR 39972, July 23, 1999. *Order Date:* June 17, 1999.

*Docket Number:* 99-019. *Applicant:* National Institutes of Health, Hamilton, MT 59840. *Instrument:* Electron Microscope, Model H-7500. *Manufacturer:* Nissei Sangyo Ltd., Japan. *Intended Use:* See notice at 64 FR 42091. *Order Date:* May 19, 1999.

*Comments:* None received. *Decision:* Approved. No instrument of equivalent scientific value to the foreign instrument, for such purposes as these instruments are intended to be used, was being manufactured in the United States at the time the instruments were ordered. *Reasons:* Each foreign instrument is a conventional transmission electron microscope (CTEM) and is intended for research or scientific educational uses requiring a CTEM. We know of no CTEM, or any other instrument suited to these purposes, which was being manufactured in the United States at the time of order of each instrument.

**Frank W. Creel**,

*Director, Statutory Import Programs Staff.*

[FR Doc. 99-23436 Filed 9-8-99; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### International Trade Administration

#### Purdue University; Notice of Decision on Application for Duty-Free Entry of Scientific Instrument

This decision is made pursuant to Section 6(c) of the Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Materials Importation Act of 1966 (Pub. L. 89-651, 80 Stat. 897; 15 CFR part 301). Related records can be viewed between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. in Room 4211, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC.

*Docket Number:* 99-016. *Applicant:* Purdue University, W. Lafayette, IN 47907-1393. *Instrument:* ICP Mass Spectrometer, Model PlasmaQuad 3. *Manufacturer:* VG Elemental, United Kingdom. *Intended Use:* See notice at 64 FR 36338, July 6, 1999.

*Comments:* None received. *Decision:* Approved. No instrument of equivalent scientific value to the foreign instrument, for such purposes as it is intended to be used, is being manufactured in the United States.

*Reasons:* The foreign instrument provides: (1) Determination of six radionuclides (<sup>10</sup>Be, <sup>14</sup>C, <sup>26</sup>Al, <sup>36</sup>Cl, <sup>41</sup>Ca, <sup>129</sup>I) for NSF Accelerator Mass Spectrometry Facility, (2) a high sensitivity quadrupole and (3) measurement of more elements than other ICP-mass spectrometers as determined by testing of standard specimen samples. The Department of Energy advised on August 18, 1999 that (1) these capabilities are pertinent to the applicant's intended purpose and (2) it knows of no domestic instrument or apparatus of equivalent scientific value to the foreign instrument for the applicant's intended use.

We know of no other instrument or apparatus of equivalent scientific value to the foreign instrument which is being manufactured in the United States.

**Frank W. Creel**,

*Director, Statutory Import Programs Staff.*

[FR Doc. 99-23435 Filed 9-8-99; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 082799B]

#### National Plan of Action for the Reduction of Incidental Catch of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries

**AGENCY:** National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and

Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Public notice.

**SUMMARY:** The United States, through a collaborative effort of NMFS and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS), is developing a National Plan of Action (NPOA) pursuant to the endorsement of the International Plan of Action (IPOA) for the Reduction of Incidental Catch of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (UN FAO) Committee on Fisheries (COFI) Ministerial Meeting in March 1999. Noting the increased numbers of incidental seabird catch in longline fisheries, this IPOA calls on COFI member states to voluntarily develop national plans on reducing this incidental seabird catch. The United States has committed itself to developing this national plan, and reporting on its implementation to COFI, no later than 2001. This notice provides a time frame for the completion of this project and an outline of the contents of this NPOA. The public is invited to provide written comments and suggestions for items to be incorporated or addressed within the NPOA.

**DATES:** Comments will be accepted on the Seabird NPOA from September 9, 1999 until September 30, 1999.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments should be sent to David Kerstetter, NOAA-Fisheries/SF, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** David Kerstetter, 301-713-2337, ext. 107, or FAX 301-713-2313.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The "International Plan of Action (IPOA) for Reducing Incidental Catch of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries" was endorsed in principle at the 23<sup>rd</sup> FAO COFI session in February 1999 and approved at the Fisheries Ministerial in March 1999. As with the two other IPOAs on sharks and capacity reduction, the Seabird IPOA calls on members to voluntarily develop an NPOA on this issue.

The FAO Fisheries Department has a draft budget for the 1999-2001 biennium of US\$ 304,000 to assist with implementation of the seabird Plan by its Members. These funds have been allocated primarily to staff time, consultants, and publication costs. FAO anticipates the following three major actions from this budget toward its members: (1) Providing technical assistance while preparing NPOAs, (2) providing assistance in coordinating research and training, and (3) assisting in the reporting process to COFI.

The U.S. Government agencies did not wait for the passage of the IPOA to begin the work of seabird protection and management. Many measures have already been taken to reduce the incidental catch of these seabird species under such statutes as the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, the Endangered Species Act (ESA), and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA). The U.S. NPOA is currently under development as a collaborative effort between NMFS and the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), with a draft Seabirds NPOA tentatively due for **Federal Register** notice in November 1999 and full completion of the Plan by January 2000.

Written comments on the Seabirds NPOA are encouraged (See **ADDRESSES**).

PROPOSED SCHEDULE

Date	Item
September 1999	Release approved schedule and outline to public via a FEDERAL REGISTER notice.
October 1999	Collect and incorporate review comments.
November 1999	Release Draft NPOA for public comment.
January 2000	Respond to public comments and release final version of Seabirds NPOA.

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Dated: September 1, 1999.

**Bruce C. Morehead,**  
*Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.*  
 [FR Doc. 99-23359 Filed 9-8-99; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-F**

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[Docket No. 990902244-9244-01; I.D. 042699A]

Vessel Monitoring Systems; List of Approved Mobile Transmitting Units and Communications Service Providers

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

**ACTION:** Notice of vessel monitoring systems; approval.

**SUMMARY:** This document provides notice of the vessel monitoring systems (VMS) approved by NOAA for use by pelagic longline vessels in the Atlantic Highly Migratory Species (HMS) Fisheries and sets forth relevant features of each VMS.

**ADDRESSES:** To obtain copies of the list of NOAA approved VMS mobile transmitting units and NOAA approved VMS communications service providers, write to NOAA Office for Law Enforcement (OLE), 8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 415, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

To obtain information regarding the status of VMSs being evaluated by NOAA for approval, write to NOAA Office for Law Enforcement, 8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 415, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

For more addresses regarding approved VMSs, see the SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION section, under the heading VMS Provider Addresses.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

*Current listing information:* Linda Taylor, Outreach Specialist, phone 301-427-2010, fax 301-427-2055.

*Installation and activation checklists:* For a copy of the checklist, contact Sandra Yin, VMS Specialist, phone 301-427-2300. For questions regarding the checklist, contact Fred Kyle, Special Agent, NOAA Enforcement, Southeast Division, phone 727-570-5344. To submit a completed and signed checklist, mail or fax it to NOAA Enforcement, 9721 Executive Center Drive North, Koger Building, St. Petersburg, FL 33702, fax 727-570-5355.

*Status of evaluations:* Sandra Yin, VMS Specialist, phone 301-427-2300, fax 301-427-2055.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**