

## LIST OF PETITION ACTION BY TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE FOR PERIOD 6/17/99-11/29/99—Continued

Firm Name	Address	Date Petition Accepted	Product
Carolina Nail, Inc. ....	620 Forum Parkway, Rural Hall, NC 27045.	11/29/99	Specialty and collated nails.
I. G. Gold, Inc. ....	5905 Sovereign Drive, Houston, Texas 77036.	11/29/99	Gold necklaces and chains.
Technical Services for Electronics, Inc. ....	108 5th Avenue NW, Arlington, MN 55307.	11/29/99	Insulated electrical wiring assembled with connectors
Murray Corporation. ....	260 Schilling Circle, Cockeysville, MD 21031.	11/29/99	Clamps used in the automotive, industrial and marine industries.
Pincus Brothers, Inc. ....	Independence Mall East, Philadelphia, PA 191.	11/29/99	Men's and women's tailored clothing, jackets and pants.

The petitions were submitted pursuant to Section 251 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2341). Consequently, the United States Department of Commerce has initiated separate investigations to determine whether increased imports into the United States of articles like or directly competitive with those produced by each firm contributed importantly to total or partial separation of the firm's workers, or threat thereof, and to a decrease in sales or production of each petitioning firm.

Any party having a substantial interest in the proceedings may request a public hearing on the matter. A request for a hearing must be received by Trade Adjustment Assistance, Room 7315, Economic Development Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, D.C. 20230, no later than the close of business of the tenth calendar day following the publication of this notice.

The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance official program number and title of the program under which these petitions are submitted is 11.313, Trade Adjustment Assistance.

Dated: November 29, 1999.

**Anthony J. Meyer,**

*Coordinator, Trade Adjustment and Technical Assistance.*

[FR Doc. 99-31480 Filed 12-3-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-24-P

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### International Trade Administration

#### United States-Palestinian Business Advisory Group: Membership

**AGENCY:** International Trade Administration, Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of membership opportunity.

**SUMMARY:** In February 1999, the U.S.-Palestinian Bilateral Committee agreed

to establish the United States-Palestinian Business Advisory Group. A notice was published June 17, 1999/Volume 64, Number 116, Page 32486 and the Group was selected consisting of ten American and ten Palestinian representatives. Both sides have now determined to enlarge the Group. This notice announces membership opportunities for American business representatives on the U.S. side of the Group.

**DATES:** In order to receive full consideration, requests must be received on or before January 5, 2000.

**ADDRESSES:** Please send your requests for consideration to Paul Thanos, Desk Officer, Office of the Near East, U.S. Department of Commerce, either by fax at (202) 482-0878 or by mail to Room 2029B, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th and Constitution, NW, Washington DC 20230.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Paul Thanos, Desk Officer, Office of the Near East, U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 2029B, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington DC 20230, Phone 202-482-1857.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The U.S.-Palestinian Bilateral Committee agreed at its February 16, 1999 meeting to establish a private sector-led business advisory group to provide input to the subcommittee on Trade and Investment. This advisory group, to be named the United States-Palestinian Business Advisory Group (USPBAG)—will make recommendations that reflect private sector views, needs, and concerns regarding business development in the West Bank and Gaza and commercial ties between Americans and Palestinians. The USPBAG will advise the Trade and Investment Subcommittee on the following areas:

- Initiatives that can be taken to promote economic activity between American and Palestinian businesses.
- Palestinian commercial and investment laws.

- Palestinian and U.S. trade policies.
- Palestinian economic policies and their impact on the business climate.

The USPBAG is comprised of two sections, an American section and a Palestinian section. Each section now has ten members, with members serving two year terms. The Group has yet to convene, and both sides have now agreed to expand membership by up to five on each side.

The members of each section will, to the extent possible, represent diverse commercial sectors. Priority sectors include: agribusiness and food processing; banking communications; engineering and construction; information technology; insurance; manufacturing; power generation; restaurant and hospitality; tourism; and software, music, video production, textiles, and retailing. The State Department will appoint members in consultation with the Commerce Department.

Private sector members will serve in a representative capacity presenting the views and interests of their particular industry. Private sector members are not special government employees. U.S. members serve at the discretion of the Secretary of State. Members will not receive compensation for their participation in USPBAG activities. Members participating in USPBAG meetings and events will be responsible for their own travel, living, and other personal expenses.

In order to be eligible for membership in the U.S. section, a potential candidate must be:

- A U.S. citizen residing in the United States.
- A holder of a significant position in a private sector company that has a unique technical expertise and outstanding reputation.
- Not a registered foreign agent under the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended.

In reviewing eligible candidates, the Department of State and Department of

Commerce will consider such selection factors as:

- Experience and interest in the West Bank and Gaza markets.
- Industry or service sector represented.

• Export/investment experience.

To be considered for membership, please provide the following: name(s) and title(s) of the individual(s) requesting consideration; name and address of the company or organization sponsoring each individual; company's product, service, or technical expertise; size of the company; export trade, investment, or international program experience and major markets; and a brief statement of why the candidate(s) should be considered for membership in the USPBAG.

Dated: November 30, 1999.

**Thomas R. Parker,**

*Director, Office of the Near East.*

[FR Doc. 99-31448 Filed 12-3-99; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Institute of Standards and Technology

[Docket No. 991109300-9300-01]

RIN 0693-ZA35

#### Announcement of Availability of Funds for a Competition—Advanced Technology Program (ATP)

**AGENCY:** National Institute of Standards and Technology, Technology Administration, Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Technology Administration's National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) announces that it will hold a single fiscal year 2000 Advanced Technology Program (ATP) competition. This single competition will continue ATP's practice of being open to all technology areas, while also capturing the advantage and momentum of focused program planning. Through this single competition strategy, ATP encourages proposals from the many technical teams that have identified synergy between industry needs and ATP funding opportunities, accelerating the pursuit of critical elements of research which were identified in focused program plans. All fiscal year 2000 proposals received will be distributed to technology-specific source evaluation boards in areas such as advanced materials, biotechnology, electronics, information technology, etc. This notice

provides general information regarding ATP competitions.

**DATES:** The proposal due date and other competition-specific instructions will be published in the Commerce Business Daily (CBD) at the time the competition is announced. Dates, times, and locations of Proposers' Conferences held for interested parties considering applying for funding will also be announced in the CBD.

**ADDRESSES:** Information on the ATP may be obtained from the following address: National Institute of Standards and Technology, Advanced Technology Program, 100 Bureau Drive, Stop 4701, Administration Building 101, Room A407, Gaithersburg, MD 20899-4701.

Additionally, information on the ATP is available on the Internet through the World Wide Web (WWW) at <http://www.atp.nist.gov>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for ATP information, application materials, and/or to have your name added to the ATP mailing list for future mailings may also be made by:

(a) Calling the ATP toll-free "hotline" number at 1-800-ATP-FUND or 1-800-287-3863. You will have the option of hearing recorded messages regarding the status of the ATP or speaking to one of our customer representatives who will take your name and address. If you reach ATP voice mail, please speak distinctly and slowly and spell the words that might cause confusion. Leave your phone number as well as your name and address;

(b) Sending a facsimile (fax) to 301-926-9524 or 301-590-3053; or

(c) Sending electronic mail to [atp@nist.gov](mailto:atp@nist.gov). Include your name, full mailing address, and phone number.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Background

The ATP statute originated in the Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act of 1988 (Pub. L. 100-418, 15 U.S.C. 278n) but was amended by the American Technology Preeminence Act of 1991 (Pub. L. 102-245). This law has been codified at 15 U.S.C. § 278n. The ATP implementing regulations are published at 15 CFR Part 295, as amended. The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number and program title for the ATP are 11.612, Advanced Technology Program (ATP).

The ATP is a rigorously competitive cost-sharing program designed for the Federal government to work in partnership and industry to foster the development and board dissemination of challenging, high-risk technologies

that offer the potential for significant, broad-based economic benefits for the nation. Such a unique government-industry research partnership fosters the acceleration not only of dramatic gains in existing industries, but also acceleration of the development of emerging or enabling technologies leading to revolutionary new products, industrial processes and services for the world's markets and work to spawn industries of the 21st century. The ATP provides multi-year funding to single companies and to industry-led joint ventures. The ATP accelerates technologies that, because they are risky, are unlikely to be developed in time to compete in rapidly changing world markets without such a partnership between industry and the Federal government. The ATP challenges industry to take on higher risk (but commensurately higher potential payoff to the nation) projects than they would otherwise. Proposers must provide credible arguments as to the project feasibility.

The funding instrument used in ATP awards is a "cooperative agreement." Through the use of the cooperative agreement, the ATP is designed to foster a government-industry partnership to accomplish a public purpose of support or stimulation. NIST plays a substantial role by providing technical assistance and monitoring the technical work, business progress, and expenditure of Federal funds.

##### Funding Availability

An estimated \$50.7 million in first year funding will be available for new awards for a single fiscal year 2000 ATP competition to be announced in the CBD. The actual number of proposals funded under this competition will depend on the quality of the proposals received and the amount of funding requested in the highest ranked proposals. Outyear funding beyond the first year is contingent on the approval of future Congressional appropriations and satisfactory project performance.

##### Eligibility Requirements, Selection Criteria, and Proposal Review Process

The eligibility requirements, selection criteria, and the proposal review process are discussed in detail in the ATP implementing regulations published at 15 CFR part 295, as amended, and the ATP Proposal Preparation Kit dated November 1999.

##### Funding Amounts, Award Period and Cost Sharing (Matching) Requirements

(a) Single company recipients can receive up to \$2 million in total for R&D activities for up to 3 years. ATP funds