

slope model shows that the northeastern offshore spotted dolphin abundance would stay constant, while eastern spinner abundance would decline, assuming that there have been no change in carrying capacity since the late 1950s.

[FR Doc. 03-798 Filed 1-14-03; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Telecommunications and Information Administration

Notice, Roundtable on Convergence of Communications Technologies, "Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP)"

AGENCY: National Telecommunications and Information Administration, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) will host an afternoon roundtable discussion on Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP). The roundtable will address the technical and functional aspects of VoIP, the state of the VoIP marketplace, and the policy and regulatory issues that may arise with use of such convergence technology.

DATES: The roundtable will be held 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., Wednesday, February 12, 2003.

ADDRESSES: The roundtable will be held at the U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC in Room 4830. (Entrance to the Department of Commerce is on 14th Street between Constitution and Pennsylvania avenues.) This roundtable is open to the public. To facilitate entry into the Department of Commerce, please have a photo identification and/or U.S. Government building pass, if applicable.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jennifer Guy, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information, at (202) 482-1840, or electronic mail: jguy@ntia.doc.gov. Media inquiries should be directed to the Office of Public Affairs, NTIA, at (202) 482-7002.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Advancements in the development of Internet Protocol (IP) technologies are expanding the viability of IP-based networks to support additional features, including the transmission of voice, commonly referred to as VoIP. While traditional telephone service uses circuit-switched technology to establish

a dedicated line between communicating parties, VoIP applications use packet-switched technology that divides the voice transmission into packets of data and sends them over the fastest available route. VoIP systems may use bandwidth more efficiently and may represent cost savings for providers and subscribers by using a single network for both voice and data. VoIP has been developing over the last decade, with a number of companies already deploying the service or announcing introduction in the near future.

NTIA's roundtable will address the issues necessary to understand VoIP, how it works, the marketplace trends, and the impacts VoIP may have on communications and information policies and regulations. As the principal adviser to the President on communications and information policies, NTIA is vested with "[t]he authority to conduct studies and make recommendations concerning the impact of the convergence of computer and communications technology." 47 U.S.C. § 902(M). The roundtable dialogue will help the Administration to better understand the technology, its relation to the telecommunications market, especially to broadband, and prepare for participation in other venues, including the International Telecommunications Union (ITU).

The roundtable will be divided into three sessions. First, NTIA will present a brief overview of VoIP, featuring a demonstration of VoIP technology using the Commerce Department's newly-installed VoIP telephone system. Two panel discussions will follow: the first panel will focus on the VoIP marketplace, and the second panel will address policy considerations for VoIP. Each of these sessions will also include a brief audience question and answer session.

The roundtable will be webcast. A final, updated copy of the agenda, including a link for the webcast will be available on NTIA's web page at www.ntia.doc.gov.

Public Participation

This meeting will be open to the public. Seating for public attendees is limited and is available on a first-come, first served basis. The roundtable will be physically accessible to people with disabilities. Any member of the public wishing to attend and requiring special services, such as sign language interpretation or other ancillary aids, should contact Jennifer Guy (see contact information above) at least three (3) days prior to the meeting.

Dated: January 9, 2003.

Kathy D. Smith,

Chief Counsel, National Telecommunications and Information Administration.

[FR Doc. 03-801 Filed 1-14-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-60-M

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Patent and Trademark Office

Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) Certificate Action Form

ACTION: Proposed collection; comment request.

SUMMARY: The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), 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 the continuing information collection, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Pub. L. 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before March 17, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Susan K. Brown, Records Officer, Office of Data Architecture and Services, Data Administration Division, USPTO, Suite 310, 2231 Crystal Drive, Washington, DC 20231; by telephone at (703) 308-7400; or by electronic mail at susan.brown@uspto.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information should be directed to Fred Whiteside, Information Technology Security Program Office, USPTO, Washington, DC 20231; by telephone at (703) 308-6973; or by electronic mail at frederick.whiteside@uspto.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

I. Abstract

The Government Paperwork Elimination Act (GPEA) directs federal agencies to implement electronic commerce systems that will enable the collection and dissemination of information while also ensuring the security and validity of information that is transmitted electronically. In support of the GPEA and its own electronic filing initiatives, the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) has implemented Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) technology to support electronic commerce between the USPTO and its customers. PKI is a set of hardware, software, policies and procedures used to provide several important security services for the electronic business activities of the USPTO. Using PKI ensures the

confidentiality of unpublished patent applications in accordance with 35 U.S.C. 122 and Article 30 of the Patent Cooperation Treaty.

In order to provide the necessary security for its electronic commerce system, the USPTO uses PKI technology to protect the integrity and confidentiality of information submitted electronically to the USPTO. PKI employs public and private encryption keys to authenticate the customer's identity and support secure communication between the customer and the USPTO. Customers may submit a request to the USPTO for a digital certificate, which enables the customer to download and use the Entrust cryptographic software to create the encryption keys necessary for electronic identity verification and secure transactions with the USPTO. This digital certificate is required in order to access secure online systems that are provided by the USPTO, such as obtaining patent application information through the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system or filing patent applications and related documents electronically.

This information collection includes the Certificate Action Form (PTO-2042),

which is used by the public to request a digital certificate. This form is available for download from the USPTO Web site. This form may also be used by customers to request the revocation of a digital certificate or key recovery in the event of a lost or corrupted certificate. Requests for a certificate must include a notarized signature in order to verify the identity of the applicant. In addition, a Subscriber Agreement is included with the Certificate Action Form to ensure that customers understand their obligations regarding the use of the digital certificates as well as the Entrust software, which authorized users may download from the USPTO Web site. The Certificate Action Form collects personal information that is subject to the Privacy Act of 1974 and is covered by a System of Records Notice that was published in the **Federal Register** (Vol. 65, No. 80) on April 25, 2000.

II. Method of Collection

By mail or hand delivery to the USPTO.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0651-0045.

Form Number(s): PTO-2042.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Affected Public: Individuals or households; businesses or other for-profits; not-for-profit institutions; farms; the Federal Government; and State, local or tribal governments.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 8,000 responses per year.

Estimated Time Per Response: The USPTO estimates that it will take the public approximately 30 minutes (0.5 hours) to read the instructions and Subscriber Agreement, gather the necessary information, prepare, and submit the Certificate Action Form (PTO-2042).

Estimated Total Annual Respondent Burden Hours: 4,000 hours per year.

Estimated Total Annual Respondent Cost Burden: \$564,000 per year. The USPTO expects that the information in this collection will be prepared by attorneys and paraprofessionals, as well as independent inventors. Using the professional rate of \$252 per hour for associate attorneys in private firms and the rate of \$30 per hour for paraprofessionals and independent inventors, the USPTO estimates that the average hourly rate for all respondents for this collection will be \$141 per hour. Therefore, the respondent cost burden for this collection will be \$564,000 per year.

Item	Estimated time for response	Estimated annual responses	Estimated annual burden hours
Certificate Action Form (including Subscriber Agreement)	30 minutes	8,000	4,000
Total	8,000	4,000

Estimated Total Annual Non-hour Respondent Cost Burden: \$2,960. There are no capital start-up or maintenance costs or filing fees associated with this information collection. However, customers may incur postage costs when submitting the Certificate Action Form to the USPTO by mail. The USPTO estimates that the first-class postage cost for a mailed Certificate Action Form will be 37 cents, for a total non-hour respondent cost burden in the form of postage costs of \$2,960 per year.

IV. Request 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, *e.g.*, the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

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

Dated: January 8, 2003.

Susan K. Brown,

Records Officer, USPTO, Office of Data Architecture and Services, Data Administration Division.

[FR Doc. 03-773 Filed 1-14-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-16-P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs, DoD.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs announces the proposed extension of a public information collection and seeks public comment on the provisions thereof. Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed reinstatement of 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 of the information