

VT Halter Marine, Inc., Gulfport, MS, a subsidiary of Vision Technologies, Inc., has been removed as a party from this venture. The general area of planned activity of the NSRP is to establish collaborative research efforts of limited duration to manage and focus national shipbuilding research and development funding on technologies that will reduce the cost of warships to the Navy, and establish U.S. international shipbuilding competitiveness. This includes the assessment of product design and material technologies, and provides a collaborative forum to improve business and acquisition processes.

No other changes have been made in either the membership or planned activity of the group research project. Membership in this group research project remains open, and Advanced Technology Institute intends to file additional written notification disclosing all changes in membership.

On March 13, 1998, Advanced Technology Institute filed its original notification for the National Shipbuilding Research Program pursuant to section 6(a) of the Act. The Department of Justice published a notice in the **Federal Register** pursuant to section 6(b) of the Act on January 29, 1999 (64 FR 4708).

The last notification was filed with the Department on January 13, 2003. A notice was published in the **Federal Register** pursuant to section 6(b) of the Act on March 3, 2003 (68 FR 10033). A Correction Notice was published in the **Federal Register** on April 24, 2003 (68 FR 20174).

Dorothy B. Fountain,

Deputy Director of Operations, Antitrust Division.

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Office of the Secretary

**Submission for OMB Review;
Comment Request**

September 30, 2003.

The Department of Labor (DOL) has submitted the following public information collection requests (ICRs) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13, 44 U.S.C. chapter 35). A copy of each individual ICR, with applicable supporting documentation, may be obtained by calling the Department of Labor. To obtain documentation, contact

Darrin King on 202-693-4129 (this is not a toll-free number) or e-Mail: king.darrin@dol.gov.

Comments should be sent to Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attn: OMB Desk Officer for the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), Office of Management and Budget, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503 (202-395-7316 / this is not a toll-free number), within 30 days from the date of this publication in the **Federal Register**.

The OMB is particularly interested in comments which:

- * Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

- * Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

- * Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

- * Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

Agency: Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Title: Ethylene Oxide (EtO).

OMB Number: 1218-0108.

Frequency: On occasion; Quarterly; Semi-annually; and Annually.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit; Federal Government; and State, local, or tribal government.

Number of Respondents: 5,667.

Number of Annual Responses: 252,395.

Estimated Time Per Response: Varies from 5 minutes to 2 hours.

Total Burden Hours: 43,972.

Total Annualized capital/startup costs: \$0.

Total annual costs (operating/maintaining systems or purchasing services): \$6,582,909.

Description: The information-collection requirements specified in the Ethylene Oxide (EtO) Standard (29 CFR 1910.1047) protect employees from the adverse health effects that may result from their exposure to EtO. The major information-collection requirements of the EtO Standard include notifying

employees of their EtO exposures, implementing a written compliance program, providing examining physicians with specific information, ensuring that employees receive a copy of their medical-examination results, maintaining employees' exposure-monitoring and medical records for specific periods, and providing access to these records by OSHA, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, the affected employees, and their authorized representatives.

Agency: Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Title: 4,4'-Methylenedianiline Construction—29 CFR 1926.60.

OMB Number: 1218-0183.

Frequency: On occasion; Quarterly; Semi-annually; and Annually.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit; Federal Government; and State, local, or tribal government.

Number of Respondents: 66.

Number of Annual Responses: 3,962.

Estimated Time Per Response: Varies from 1 minute to 2 hours.

Total Burden Hours: 1,609.

Total Annualized capital/startup costs: \$0.

Total annual costs (operating/maintaining systems or purchasing services): \$80,437.

Description: The purpose of 29 CFR 1926.60 and its information collection requirements is to provide protection for employees from adverse health effects associated with occupational exposure to 4,4'-Methylenedianiline. Employers must monitor exposure, keep employee exposures within the permissible exposure limits, provide employees with medical examinations and training, and establish and maintain employee exposure-monitoring and medical records.

Agency: Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Title: 4,4'-Methylenedianiline General Industry—29 CFR 1910.1050.

OMB Number: 1218-0184.

Frequency: On occasion; Quarterly; Semi-annually; and Annually.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit; Federal Government; and State, local, or tribal government.

Number of Respondents: 15.

Number of Annual Responses: 581.

Estimated Time Per Response: Varies from 1 minute to 2 hours.

Total Burden Hours: 295.

Total Annualized capital/startup costs: \$0.

Total annual costs (operating/maintaining systems or purchasing services): \$19,037.

Description: The purpose of 29 CFR 1910.1050 and its information collection requirements is to provide protection for employees from adverse health effects associated with occupational exposure to 4,4'-Methylenedianiline. Employers must monitor exposure, keep employee exposures within the permissible exposure limits, provide employees with medical examinations and training, and establish and maintain employee exposure-monitoring and medical records.

Agency: Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Title: Electrical Protective Equipment (1910.137) and Electric Power Generation, Transmission, and Distribution (1910.269).

OMB Number: 1218-0190.

Frequency: On occasion; Semi-annually; and Annually.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit; Not-for-profit institutions; Federal Government; and State, local, or tribal government.

Number of Respondents: 12,195.

Number of Annual Responses: 548,886.

Estimated Time Per Response: Varies from 1 minute to 15 minutes.

Total Burden Hours: 22,685.

Total Annualized capital/startup costs: \$0.

Total annual costs (operating/maintaining systems or purchasing services): \$0.

Description: Under 29 CFR 1910.137(b)(2)(xii), employers must certify that the electrical protective equipment used by their employees passed the tests specified in paragraphs (b)(2)(viii), (b)(2)(ix), and (b)(2)(xi) of the standard. The certification must identify the equipment that passed the tests and the dates of the tests. This provision helps ensure that electrical protective equipment is reliable and safe for employee use and will provide adequate protection against electric shock. In addition, certification helps OSHA to determine if employers are in compliance with the equipment-testing requirements of the standard.

Section 1910.269(a)(2)(vii) requires employers to certify that each employee received the training specified in paragraph (a)(2) of the standard. Employers must provide certification after an employee demonstrates proficiency in the work practices involved. This certification requirement helps employers monitor the training their employees received and helps

OSHA determine if employers provided the required training to their employees.

Ira L. Mills,

Departmental Clearance Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employee Benefits Security Administration

Proposed Extension of Information Collection Request Submitted for Public Comment; Employee Benefit Plan Claims Procedures Under ERISA

AGENCY: Employee Benefits Security Administration, Department of Labor.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Labor, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, conducts a preclearance consultation program to provide the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed and continuing collections of information in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA 95). This program helps to ensure that requested data can be provided in the desired format, reporting burden (time and financial resources) is minimized, collection instruments are clearly understood, and the impact of collection requirements on respondents can be properly assessed. Currently, the Employee Benefits Security Administration is soliciting comments on the proposed extension of the information collection request (ICR) incorporated in regulations pertaining to Employee Benefit Plan Claims Procedures under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

A copy of the (ICR) can be obtained by contacting the individual shown in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted to the office shown in the **ADDRESSES** section on or before December 5, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Gerald B. Lindrew, Department of Labor, Employee Benefits Security Administration, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20210, (202) 693-8410, FAX (202) 693-4745 (these are not toll-free numbers).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

Section 503 of ERISA provides that, pursuant to regulations promulgated by

the Secretary of Labor, each employee benefit plan shall provide notice in writing to any participant or beneficiary whose claim for benefits under the plan has been denied. This notice must set forth the specific reasons for the denial and must be written in a manner calculated to be understood by the claimant. Plans must also afford a reasonable opportunity for a participant or beneficiary whose claim has been denied to obtain a full and fair review of the denial by the appropriate named fiduciary.

The Department first issued regulations pertaining to claims procedures in 1977. These procedures were subsequently amended by a Notice of Final Rulemaking published on November 21, 2000 (65 FR 70246). The regulatory provisions pursuant to ERISA section 503 are codified at 29 CFR 2560.503-1. These regulations require the establishment of reasonable claims procedures, and describe the timing and content of notices and disclosures that will be deemed to constitute part of a reasonable claims procedure.

II. Review Focus

The Department of Labor (Department) is particularly interested in comments that:

- Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;
- Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submissions of responses.

III. Current Actions

The Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) approval of this ICR is scheduled to expire on November 30, 2003. After considering comments received in response to this notice, the Department intends to submit the ICR to OMB for continuing approval. No change to the existing ICR is proposed or made at this time.

Agency: Employee Benefits Security Administration, Department of Labor.