

DATES: DoD will consider all comments received by July 19, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Respondents may submit comments via the Internet at <http://emissary.acq.osd.mil/dar/dfars.nsf/pubcomm>. As an alternative, respondents may e-mail comments to: dfars@osd.mil. Please cite OMB Control Number 0704-0272 in the subject line of e-mailed comments.

Respondents that cannot submit comments using either of the above methods may submit comments to: Defense Acquisition Regulations Council, Attn: Ms. Amy Williams, OUSD(AT&L)DPAP(DAR), IMD 3C132, 3062 Defense Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301-3062; facsimile (703) 602-0350. Please cite OMB Control Number 0704-0272.

At the end of the comment period, interested parties may view public comments on the Internet at <http://emissary.acq.osd.mil/dar/dfars.nsf>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Amy Williams, (703) 602-0328. The information collection requirements addressed in this notice are available on the Internet at: <http://www.acq.osd.mil/dpap/dfars/index.htm>.

Paper copies are available from Ms. Amy Williams, OUSD(AT&L)DPAP(DAR), IMD 3C132, 3062 Defense Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301-3062.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title and OMB Number: Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS) Part 223, Occupational Safety, and related clauses in DFARS 252.223; OMB Control Number 0704-0272.

Needs and Uses: This information collection requires that an offeror or contractor submit information to DoD in response to DFARS solicitation provisions and contract clauses relating to occupational safety. DoD contracting officers use this information to—

- Verify compliance with requirements for labeling of hazardous materials;
 - Ensure contractor compliance and monitor subcontractor compliance with DoD 4145.26-M, DoD Contractors' Safety Manual for Ammunition and Explosives, and minimize risk of mishaps;
 - Identify the place of performance of all ammunition and explosives work; and
 - Ensure contractor compliance and monitor subcontractor compliance with DoD 5100.76-M, Physical Security of Sensitive Conventional Arms, Ammunition, and Explosives.
- Affected Public:* Businesses or other for-profit and not-for-profit institutions.

Annual Burden Hours: 9,448.

Number of Respondents: 1,519.

Responses Per Respondent:

Approximately 9.

Annual Responses: 13,507.

Average Burden Per Response: .7 hours.

Frequency: On occasion.

Summary of Information Collection

This information collection includes the following requirements:

1. *DFARS 252.223-7001, Hazard Warning Labels.* Paragraph (c) requires all offerors to list which hazardous materials will be labeled in accordance with certain statutory requirements instead of the Hazard Communication Standard. Paragraph (d) requires only the apparently successful offeror to submit, before award, a copy of the hazard warning label for all hazardous materials not listed in paragraph (c) of the clause.

2. *DFARS 252.223-7002, Safety Precautions for Ammunition and Explosives.* Paragraph (c)(2) requires the contractor, within 30 days of notification of noncompliance with DoD 4145.26-M, to notify the contracting officer of actions taken to correct the noncompliance. Paragraph (d)(1) requires the contractor to notify the contracting officer immediately of any mishaps involving ammunition or explosives. Paragraph (d)(3) requires the contractor to submit a written report of the investigation of the mishap to the contracting officer. Paragraph (g)(4) requires the contractor to notify the contracting officer before placing a subcontract for ammunition or explosives.

3. *DFARS 252.223-7003, Changes in Place of Performance—Ammunition and Explosives.* Paragraph (a) requires the offeror to identify, in the Place of Performance provision of the solicitation, the place of performance of all ammunition and explosives work covered by the Safety Precautions for Ammunition and Explosives clause of the solicitation. Paragraphs (b) and (c) require the offeror or contractor to obtain written permission from the contracting officer before changing the place of performance after the date set for receipt of offers or after contract award.

4. *DFARS 252.223-7007, Safeguarding Sensitive Conventional Arms, Ammunition, and Explosives.* Paragraph (e) requires the contractor to notify the cognizant Defense Security Service field office within 10 days after award of any subcontract involving sensitive conventional arms,

ammunition, and explosives within the scope of DoD 5100.76-M.

Michele P. Peterson,

Executive Editor, Defense Acquisition Regulations Council.

[FR Doc. 04-11426 Filed 5-19-04; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Technical Assistance Relating to Machine Tools

AGENCY: Department of Defense (DoD).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice implements that portion of Section 823 of the Fiscal Year 2004 National Defense Authorization Act that requires the Secretary of Defense to publish information on resources available to assist machine tool companies and users of machine tools in understanding Government contracting procedures and in locating opportunities for contracting with DoD.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Susan L. Schneider, Procurement Analyst, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, OUSD(AT&L), 3060 Defense Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301-3060, (703) 614-4840; or e-mail to Susan.Schneider@osd.mil.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice contains information required under Section 823 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2004 (Pub. L. 108-136) to assist machine tool companies and users of machine tools in Government contracting. It identifies several important resources that are available to assist prospective contractors in understanding Government contracting procedures and in locating opportunities for contracting with DoD.

The DoD Procurement Technical Assistance (PTA) Cooperative Agreement Program was established by Congress in 1985 to provide DoD assistance to eligible entities in obtaining and performing under DoD contracts. Due to its initial success, it was later expanded to include all Federal agencies, as well as State and local governments. The Defense Logistics Agency, Director of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization, is responsible for management of the PTA program. The PTA program manager has advised PTA program participants of DoD's emphasis on the need to be responsive to machine tool companies and users of machine tools in Government contracting by providing assistance and counseling consistent with the requirements of Section 823 as outlined below.

Under this program, PTA centers provide day-to-day assistance to firms seeking to do business with Federal agencies and State and local governments in the form of such services as helping to prepare bids and proposals, marketing to potential buyers, establishing electronic commerce capability, setting up or improving quality assurance and accounting systems, and resolving payment problems. This specialized and professional assistance may consist of, but is not limited to, outreach and counseling services. Participants in this program make a concerted effort to seek out and assist small businesses, small disadvantaged businesses, women-owned small businesses, historically underutilized business zone small businesses, historically Black colleges and universities and minority institutions, and veteran-owned small businesses (including service-disabled veteran-owned small businesses. A listing of the current PTA centers can be viewed at <http://www.dla.mil/pta>.

In addition, there are three other sources of information that provide assistance to prospective contractors in finding DoD contracting opportunities. The "Guide to DoD Contracting Opportunities" is a publication that provides a step-by-step approach to business dealings with DoD. It is located at http://www.acq.osd.mil/sadbu/Doing_Business/index.htm and provides marketing ideas and helpful advice for registering your company. Also, FedBizOpps is a single Governmentwide point of entry for Federal procurement opportunities. Government buyers are able to publicize their business opportunities by posting information directly to FedBizOpps via the Internet, and commercial vendors seeking jobs can search, monitor, and retrieve opportunities solicited by the entire Federal contracting community. Additional information on FedBizOpps can be found at <http://www.fedbizopps.gov>. This is also a useful site to identify subcontracting opportunities, since contract awards to prime contractors are also published at FedBizOpps.

The Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) and the Defense FAR Supplement (DFARS) are the regulations that govern DoD contracting. The FAR and the DFARS work in tandem. They prescribe contractor responsibilities and employment practices that apply to all contractors, large and small. The Defense Acquisition Regulations Directorate maintains electronic copies of these regulations, and they are readily

accessible to the public at <http://www.acq.osd.mil/dpap/dars/index.htm>.

Michele P. Peterson,

Executive Editor, Defense Acquisition Regulations Council.

[FR Doc. 04-11425 Filed 5-19-04; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Notice of Proposed Information Collection Requests

AGENCY: Department of Education.

SUMMARY: The Acting Leader, Regulatory Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer, invites comments on the proposed information collection requests as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before July 19, 2004.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35) requires that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) provide interested Federal agencies and the public an early opportunity to comment on information collection requests. OMB may amend or waive the requirement for public consultation to the extent that public participation in the approval process would defeat the purpose of the information collection, violate State or Federal law, or substantially interfere with any agency's ability to perform its statutory obligations. The Acting Leader, Regulatory Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer, publishes that notice containing proposed information collection requests prior to submission of these requests to OMB. Each proposed information collection, grouped by office, contains the following: (1) Type of review requested, e.g. new, revision, extension, existing or reinstatement; (2) Title; (3) Summary of the collection; (4) Description of the need for, and proposed use of, the information; (5) Respondents and frequency of collection; and (6) Reporting and/or Recordkeeping burden. OMB invites public comment.

The Department of Education is especially interested in public comment addressing the following issues: (1) Is this collection necessary to the proper functions of the Department; (2) will this information be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) is the estimate of burden accurate; (4) how might the Department enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be

collected; and (5) how might the Department minimize the burden of this collection on the respondents, including through the use of information technology.

Dated: May 14, 2004.

Jeanne Van Vlandren,

Acting Leader, Regulatory Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

Office of Vocational and Adult Education

Type of Review: New.

Title: Annual Performance Report Grants Under the Smaller Learning Communities Program.

Frequency: Annually.

Affected Public:

State, Local, or Tribal Gov't, SEAs or LEAs (primary).

Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:

Responses: 400.

Burden Hours: 26,000.

Abstract: The Annual Performance Report form requests information from grantees regarding progress made in achieving the objectives identified in the grantee's application including student outcome data and program implementation information.

Requests for copies of the proposed information collection request may be accessed from <http://edicsweb.ed.gov>, by selecting the "Browse Pending Collections" link and by clicking on link number 2548. When you access the information collection, click on "Download Attachments" to view. Written requests for information should be addressed to Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Potomac Center, 9th Floor, Washington, DC 20202-4700. Requests may also be electronically mailed to the Internet address OCIO_RIMG@ed.gov or faxed to 202-245-6623. Please specify the complete title of the information collection when making your request.

Comments regarding burden and/or the collection activity requirements should be directed to Sheila Carey at her e-mail address Sheila.Carey@ed.gov. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Notice of Proposed Information Collection Requests

AGENCY: Department of Education.