

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: William Barker, Computer Security Division, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, MD 20899-8930, telephone (301) 975-8443, e-mail: william.barker@nist.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On August 27, 2004, the President signed Homeland Security Presidential Directive (HSPD) Number 12 that directed the Secretary of Commerce to promulgate a Federal Standard by February 27, 2005, that assures secure and reliable forms of identification of Federal and Federal contractor employees. In response, the NIST Computer Security Division has initiated development of this standard. The principal requirements of HSPD Number 12 are to create a secure and reliable automated system that may be used Government-wide to: (1) Establish the authentic true identity of an individual; (2) issue an identity credential token to each authenticated individual containing an "electronic representation" of the identity and the person to whom it is issued which can later be verified using appropriate technical means when access to a secure Federal facility or information system is requested; (3) provide graduated criteria that provide appropriate levels of assurance and security to the application; (4) be strongly resistant to identity fraud, counterfeiting, and exploitation by individuals, terrorist organizations, or conspiracy groups; (5) initiate development and use of interoperable automated systems meeting these requirements.

To meet these requirements, the draft FIPS proposes (1) a credential issuance process that relies upon identity documentation supplemented by record checking; (2) specifications for storage of biometric information on the identity credential; (3) use of existing graduated criteria for employee position sensitivity and physical/logical access levels; (4) security controls to counter fraud and exploitation; and (5) information to facilitate agency establishment of real-time credential validity checking and integration of the new credential into physical and logical access systems.

Under the requirements of HSPD Number 12, the standard must be promulgated by February 27, 2005. NIST anticipates that the initial standard will be augmented over the course of two to three years as additional supporting technical guidelines, recommendations, reference implementations, and conformance tests are developed.

Authority: NIST's activities to develop computer security standards to protect

Federal non-national security systems is undertaken pursuant to specific responsibilities assigned to NIST in the Federal Information Security Management Act of 2002. In addition, development of FIPS 201 is being undertaken in response to Homeland Security Presidential Directive Number 12.

Dated: November 18, 2004.

Richard F. Kayser,

Acting Deputy Director.

[FR Doc. 04-25953 Filed 11-22-04; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Institute of Standards and Technology

Visiting Committee on Advanced Technology

AGENCY: National Institute of Standards and Technology Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of partially closed meeting.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. app. 2, notice is hereby given that the Visiting Committee on Advanced Technology (VCAT), National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), will meet Tuesday, December 7, 2004, from 8:15 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Visiting Committee on Advanced Technology is composed of fifteen members appointed by the Director of NIST; who are eminent in such fields as business, research, new product development, engineering, labor, education, management consulting, environment, and international relations. The purpose of this meeting is to review and make recommendations regarding general policy for the Institute, its organization, its budget, and its programs within the framework of applicable national policies as set forth by the President and the Congress. The agenda will include an update on NIST's activities; a preview of a new NIST overview; a VCAT member's presentation on managing organizations with remote sites; an update on outreach strategy; an update on the Manufacturing Extension Partnership Program; and updates from the Fall Senior Management Board Strategy Retreat. Two laboratory tours are scheduled. Discussions scheduled to begin at 8:15 a.m. and to end at 9 a.m. on December 7, on the NIST budget and planning information will be closed. Agenda may change to accommodate Committee business. The final agenda will be posted on the NIST Web site. All visitors to the National Institute of Standards and Technology site will

have to pre-register to be admitted. Please submit your name, time of arrival, e-mail address and phone number to Carolyn Peters no later than Thursday, December 2, 2004, and she will provide you with instructions for admittance. Mrs. Peter's e-mail address is carolyn.peters@nist.gov and her phone number is (301) 975-5607.

DATES: The meeting will convene on December 7 at 8:15 a.m. and will adjourn at 5 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held in the Employees Lounge, Administration Building, at NIST, Gaithersburg, Maryland. Please note admittance instructions under **SUMMARY** paragraph.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Carolyn J. Peters, Visiting Committee on Advanced Technology, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20899-1000, telephone number (301) 975-5607.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Assistant Secretary for Administration, with the concurrence of the General Counsel, formally determined on December 24, 2003, that portions of the meeting of the Visiting Committee on Advanced Technology which deal with discussion of sensitive budget and planning information that would cause harm to third parties if publicly shared be closed in accordance with section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. app. 2.

Dated: November 18, 2004.

Hratch G. Semerjian,

Acting Director.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 111804B]

Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (MAFMC); Public Meetings

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

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (Council) and its Magnuson-Stevens Act (MSA) Reauthorization Committee; its Ecosystem Committee; and its Executive Committee will hold public meetings.

DATES: The meetings will be held on Tuesday, December 7, 2004 through