

the platform technologies that will be needed to enable a personalized approach to safer and more cost-effective healthcare. The proposed topic specifically aims to address research needs for: non-invasively analyzing proteins in real-time in live tissues, animal models and humans; linking genomic, proteomic and other disparate datasets with patient-specific data to understand disease susceptibility and response to treatment; and cost-effective high-throughput biopharmaceutical manufacturing. The draft white paper for the proposed topic of *Healthcare* can be found at <http://www.nist.gov/tip/wp/index.cfm>.

Dated: October 20, 2010.

**Harry Hertz,**

Director, *Baldrige Performance Excellence Program*.

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Institute of Standards and Technology

[Docket Number: 101015518-0518-02]

#### Technology Innovation Program (TIP) Seeks White Papers

**AGENCY:** National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), Department of Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The National Institute of Standards and Technology's (NIST) Technology Innovation Program (TIP) announces that it is seeking white papers from any interested party, including academia; Federal, State, and local governments; industry; national laboratories; professional organizations/societies, and others. White papers will be used to identify and select areas of critical national need and the associated technical challenges to be addressed in future TIP competitions.

**DATES:** The due dates for submission of white papers are November 29, 2010, February 15, 2011, May 10, 2011, and July 12, 2011.

**ADDRESSES:** Please submit white papers to National Institute of Standards and Technology, Technology Innovation Program, 100 Bureau Drive, Stop 4750, Gaithersburg, MD 20899-4750. *Attention:* Critical National Needs Ideas. White papers may also be submitted via e-mail to [tipwhitepaper@nist.gov](mailto:tipwhitepaper@nist.gov).

If you have previously submitted a white paper please do not resubmit the same white paper. White papers previously submitted continue to be

considered as part of the selection process for future competitions.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Thomas Wiggins at 301-975-5416 or by e-mail at [thomas.wiggins@nist.gov](mailto:thomas.wiggins@nist.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Background Information:* The Technology Innovation Program (TIP) at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) was established for the purpose of assisting U.S. businesses and institutions of higher education or other organizations, such as national laboratories and nonprofit research institutions, to support, promote, and accelerate innovation in the United States through high-risk, high-reward research in areas of critical national need. The TIP statutory authority is section 3012 of the America Creating Opportunities to Meaningfully Promote Excellence in Technology, Education, and Science (COMPETES) Act, Public Law 110-69 (August 9, 2007), codified at 15 U.S.C. 278n. The TIP implementing regulations are published at 15 CFR part 296.

TIP holds competitions for funding based on addressing areas of critical national need. TIP identifies and selects topics for areas of critical national need based on input from within NIST, the TIP Advisory Board, the science and technology communities, and from the public. TIP is interested in receiving input on the identification and definition of problems that are sufficiently large in magnitude that they have the potential to inhibit the growth and well-being of our nation today. This announcement explains the requirements and process for interested parties to submit white papers to TIP. White papers from experts in other Federal agencies are valued and welcome and will enable TIP to complement the efforts of other mission agencies and avoid duplication of their efforts, thereby leveraging resources to benefit the nation.

The key concepts, enumerated below, are the foundation of TIP and should form the basis of an effective white paper:

a. An *area of critical national need* means an area that justifies government attention because the magnitude of the problem is large and the associated societal challenges that need to be overcome are not being addressed, but could be addressed through high-risk, high-reward research.

b. A *societal challenge* is a problem or issue confronted by society that when not addressed could negatively affect the overall function and quality of life of the nation, and as such, justifies government action. A societal challenge

is associated with barriers preventing the successful development of solutions to the area of critical national need. TIP's mission is to tackle the technical issues that can be addressed through high-risk, high-reward research. The results of the high-risk, high-reward research should have the potential for transformational results.

c. A *transformational result* is a potential project outcome that enables disruptive changes over and above current methods and strategies. Transformational results have the potential to radically improve our understanding of systems and technologies, challenging the status quo of research approaches and applications.

The white papers are expected to contain: A description of an area of critical national need and the associated societal challenge(s) (what is the problem, why is it a problem, and why is it challenging); why government support is needed and what could happen if that support is not provided in the proposed time frame; a high-level discussion of potential scientific advancements and/or technologies that are needed to address the societal challenges; and an indication of the types of entities or groups who might be interested in developing proposal submissions to fund these scientific and/or technology approaches. Do not include ideas for specific proposals in the white paper (*i.e.*, do not include your specific solution to the problem).

This solicitation for white papers is neither a Request for Proposals (RFP) nor is it a request for pre-proposals. Rather, it is a way to include ideas from the public to identify problems that justify government support and can be addressed by technological innovations that are not currently being sufficiently supported to meet the challenge.

White papers must not contain proprietary information. Submission of a white paper means that the author(s) agrees that all the information in the white paper can be made available to the public.

Information contained in these white papers will be considered and combined with information from other resources—including the vision of the Administration, NIST, other government agencies, technical communities, the TIP Advisory Board, and other stakeholders—to develop the scope of future competitions and to shape TIP's collaborative outreach. White papers are a valuable resource that adds to TIP's understanding of the significance and scope of critical national needs and associated societal challenges. The white papers submitted could be shared

with the Administration, NIST, other government agencies, technical communities, the TIP Advisory Board, other stakeholders and the public as part of the selection process for future competitions.

For detailed instructions on how to prepare and submit white papers, refer to *A Guide for Preparing and Submitting White Papers on Areas of Critical National Need*. The *Guide* is available on the TIP Web site at [http://www.nist.gov/tip/wp/upload/guide\\_for\\_white\\_papers.pdf](http://www.nist.gov/tip/wp/upload/guide_for_white_papers.pdf).

In this call for white papers, TIP is seeking information in all areas of critical national need, but also seeks information to assist TIP in further defining several topic areas under development. White papers that address any of the following areas may further develop the definition and scope of the critical national needs suggested by these topic areas, and should additionally identify and explain specific societal challenges within these critical national need areas that require a technical solution. White papers may discuss any critical national need area of interest to the submitter, or may address any of the following topic areas:

**Civil Infrastructure:** Civil infrastructure constitutes the basic fabric of the world in which we live and work. It is the combination of fundamental systems that support a community, region, or country. The civil infrastructure includes systems for transportation (airport facilities, roads, bridges, rail, waterway locks) and systems for water distribution and flood control (water distribution systems, storm and waste water collection, dams, and levees). New construction approaches and materials to improve the infrastructure and for mitigating the expense of repairing or replacing existing infrastructure appear to be areas with the potential for specific societal challenges within this area of critical national need.

Examples could include challenges such as: Advanced materials for repair and rehabilitation of existing infrastructure, advanced inspection and monitoring technologies that assist public safety officials in determining the condition of structures, or areas of sustainability of infrastructure construction.

**Complex networks and complex systems:** Society is increasingly dependent on complex networks like those used for energy delivery, telecommunication, transportation, and finance over which we have imperfect control. No single organization and no collection of organizations have the ability to effectively control these multi-

scale, distributed, highly interactive networks. Complex network theory will also be important in modeling neural systems, molecular physiological response to disease, and environmental systems. The current technical and mathematical methodologies that underpin our ability to simulate and model physical systems are unable to predict and control the behavior of complex systems. Stability and control of these networks can have far reaching consequences that affect our quality of life.

Examples could include challenges such as: Theoretical advances and/or proof-of-concept applications; or capabilities that can potentially address and advance the use of complex network analyses in the following areas—sustainable manufacturing models, resource management and environmental impacts (energy, water, agriculture), intelligent transportation systems, biological systems, communications networks, security systems, personalized healthcare, and others.

**Energy:** From agriculture to manufacturing, all endeavors require energy as input. Escalating energy demands throughout the world can lead to national security challenges, financially challenge national economies, and contribute to environmental alterations. Although heavily supported projects exist in energy research, there remain technical roadblocks that affect full deployment of new and emerging energy technologies.

Examples could include challenges such as: Technologies for improved manufacturing of critical components for alternative energy production; replacement of fossil-fuel derived fuels with non-food, renewably produced fuels; or improved technologies for stable connections of many power sources to the electrical grid.

**Ensuring Future Water Supply:** The nation's population and economic growth place greater demands on freshwater resources. At the same time, temporary or permanent drought conditions and water access rights affect regional freshwater availability. Water needs threaten to outstrip available freshwater, now and in the future. Water quality, both in terms of decontamination and disinfection of water supplies, is also being pressured by emerging contaminants that must either be removed from distributed water or converted to harmless forms of waste. Food contaminations are often traced back to water contaminations, either in the field or in processing. Municipal waste streams and irrigation

runoff may waste resources that are not captured and/or recovered.

Examples could include challenges such as: Means to provide future freshwater supplies without undue consumption of energy resources; means that determine and assure the safety of water and food from waterborne contamination; or means to economically recover resources from wastewater streams and lower the energy cost of producing freshwater and potable water from marginalized water resources.

**Healthcare:** Healthcare spending per capita in the United States is high and rising, and currently approved drugs work only in a fraction of the population. Doctors are unable to select optimal drug treatments and dosages based on the patient's unique genetics, physiology, and metabolic processes, resulting in a trial-and-error component to treatment. As a consequence, significant expenditures result in drugs that are ineffective on subsets of patients, and a clear understanding of which patients may suffer side effects from prescribed medicine is lacking. The key to improved patient response lies in greater understanding of both genetic variability and environmental influences on disease mechanisms.

Examples could include challenges such as: Cost effective advanced tools and techniques for genomics and proteomics research that provide greater understanding of complex biological systems, biomarker identification, and targeted drug and vaccine delivery systems; improved and low cost diagnostic and therapeutic systems; or better methods of integration and analysis of biological data, especially when combined with environmental and patient history data.

**Manufacturing:** Manufacturing is a vital part of our nation's economy, which now is facing increasing challenges to global competitiveness, issues relating to the regulation and control of environmental resources, and other economic pressures. Technical advances have at times been able to enhance productivity and create other efficiencies, but the recent pressures on the manufacturing community have hindered its ability to focus the necessary resources on long term solutions that could lead to sustained economic growth in this vital sector.

Examples could include challenges such as: Manufacturing systems that have shorter innovation cycles, more flexibility, and greater ability to rapidly reconfigure; technologies to accelerate the commoditization of next generation, high-performance materials, such as nanomaterials, composites, and alloys to

specification, in a consistent, efficient and effective manner; life-cycle assessment tools that will enable sustainable manufacturing; and better automation solutions.

*Nanomaterials/nanotechnology:* The unique properties of nanomaterials provide extraordinary promise. There is a need for greater understanding and solutions to overcome the barriers associated with manufacturing nanomaterials and their incorporation into products, while maintaining the unique functionality of the nanomaterials. Although many processes are achievable in the laboratory, the scale-up to industrial production without compromising the quality of the produced material can be highly problematic.

Examples could include challenges such as: Methods required for manufacturing nanomaterials with pre-specified functionality and morphology; methods for inspection and real-time monitoring the processing of nanomaterials; or methods for incorporation of nanomaterials into products without compromising the material's required properties.

*Sustainability:* "Sustainability," was defined in April 2007 by the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development in their "Framing Sustainable Development, The Brundtland Report—20 Years On" as, "meeting the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs." TIP is interested in technologies that have the potential to reduce or eliminate the environmental footprint of industrial processes and public waste streams. Sustainability is a complex and highly interdisciplinary endeavor with economic, environmental, and societal dimensions. In this context, the white papers should address elements such as cost effectiveness, energy efficiency, recyclability, safety, resource use, life-cycle analysis, and ecosystem health.

Examples could include challenges such as: Technologies to develop feedstocks from renewable sources; technologies to recover resources (minerals, materials, energy, water) from industry and other/public waste streams; low-cost, low-energy separation technologies; and replacement of hazardous/toxic materials with safer, more cost-effective materials and/or process technology.

Dated: October 25, 2010.

**Harry S. Hertz,**

*Director, Baldrige Performance Excellence Program.*

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## **COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED**

### **Procurement List, Additions and Deletions**

**AGENCY:** Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled.

**ACTION:** Additions to and deletions from the Procurement List.

**SUMMARY:** This action adds products and services to the Procurement List that will be furnished by nonprofit agencies employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities, and deletes products from the Procurement List previously furnished by such agencies.

**DATES:** *Effective Date:* 11/29/2010.

**ADDRESSES:** Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, Jefferson Plaza 2, Suite 10800, 1421 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia, 22202-3259.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Barry S. Lineback, Telephone: (703) 603-7740, Fax: (703) 603-0655, or e-mail [CMTEFedReg@AbilityOne.gov](mailto:CMTEFedReg@AbilityOne.gov).

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

##### **Additions**

On 6/19/2009 (74 FR 29187-29189) and 9/10/2010 (75 FR 55309-55310), the Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled published notices of proposed additions to the Procurement List.

After consideration of the material presented to it concerning capability of qualified nonprofit agencies to provide the products and services and impact of the additions on the current or most recent contractors, the Committee has determined that the products and services listed below are suitable for procurement by the Federal Government under 41 U.S.C. 46-48c and 41 CFR 51-2.4.

##### **Regulatory Flexibility Act Certification**

I certify that the following action will not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities. The major factors considered for this certification were:

1. The action will not result in any additional reporting, recordkeeping or

other compliance requirements for small entities other than the small organizations that will furnish the products and services to the Government.

2. The action will result in authorizing small entities to furnish the products and services to the Government.

3. There are no known regulatory alternatives which would accomplish the objectives of the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act (41 U.S.C. 46-48c) in connection with the products and services proposed for addition to the Procurement List.

##### **End of Certification**

Accordingly, the following products and services are added to the Procurement List:

##### *Products*

NSN: 8470-00-NSH-0030—Improved Oxygen Harness.

NSN: 8470-00-NSH-0031—Center Mounted Weapon Harness.

NPA: Employment Source, Inc., Fayetteville, NC.

*Contracting Activity:* Department of the Army Research, Development, & Engineering Command, Natick, MA.

*Coverage:* C-List for 100% of the requirement of the U.S. Army, as aggregated by the Department of the Army Research, Development, & Engineering Command, Natick, MA.

##### *Drawers, Midweight Cold Weather (Gen III)*

NSN: 8415-01-538-8727—Drawers Size Small Regular.

NSN: 8415-01-538-8730—Drawers Size Medium Regular.

NSN: 8415-01-538-8745—Drawers Size Large Regular.

NSN: 8415-01-538-8747—Drawers Size Large Long.

NSN: 8415-01-538-8750—Drawers Size X Large Regular.

NSN: 8415-01-538-8751—Drawers Size X Large Long.

NSN: 8415-01-545-7672—Drawers Size X Small Short.

NSN: 8415-01-545-7676—Drawers Size X Small Regular.

NSN: 8415-01-545-7717—Drawers Size Small Short.

NSN: 8415-01-545-7768—Drawers Size Small Long.

NSN: 8415-01-545-7810—Drawers Size Medium Long.

NSN: 8415-01-545-7960—Drawers Size X Large X Long.

NSN: 8415-01-545-7965—Drawers Size XX Large Regular.

NSN: 8415-01-545-7966—Drawers Size XX Large Long.

NSN: 8415-01-545-7968—Drawers Size XX Large X Long.

NPAs: New Horizons Rehabilitation Services, Inc., Auburn Hills, MI; Peckham Vocational Industries, Inc., Lansing, MI.

*Contracting Activity:* Defense Logistics Agency Troop Support, Philadelphia, PA