

[apps.nmfs.noaa.gov](http://apps.nmfs.noaa.gov), and then selecting File No. 16473 from the list of available applications.

These documents are also available upon written request or by appointment in the following offices:

Permits and Conservation Division,  
Office of Protected Resources, NMFS,  
1315 East-West Highway, Room  
13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910;  
phone (301) 427-8401; fax (301) 713-0376;

Northeast Region, NMFS, 55 Great  
Republic Drive, Gloucester, MA  
01930; phone (978) 281-9328; fax  
(978) 281-9394; and

Southeast Region, NMFS, 263 13th  
Avenue South, Saint Petersburg, FL  
33701; phone (727) 824-5312; fax  
(727) 824-5309.

Written comments on this application should be submitted to the Chief, Permits, Conservation and Education Division, at the address listed above. Comments may also be submitted by facsimile to (301) 713-0376, or by email to [NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov](mailto:NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov). Please include the File No. in the subject line of the email comment.

Those individuals requesting a public hearing should submit a written request to the Chief, Permits, Conservation and Education Division at the address listed above. The request should set forth the specific reasons why a hearing on this application would be appropriate.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**  
Kristy Beard or Carrie Hubbard, (301)  
427-8401.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The subject permit is requested under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (MMPA; 16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), the regulations governing the taking and importing of marine mammals (50 CFR part 216), the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), and the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered and threatened species (50 CFR parts 222-226).

The permit would be valid for five years from the date of issuance and would authorize level B harassment of marine mammals, including five species listed as endangered. Proposed research would take place throughout the year, from Delaware Bay to Cape Canaveral, Florida out to 120 nm offshore. The primary research objectives are: (1) To document the presence of North Atlantic right and humpback whales in the mid-Atlantic and (2) To describe the distribution and abundance of all cetaceans within specific geographic regions that are currently used for U.S. Navy training activities or may be in the

future. Research activities include aerial and vessel surveys to conduct counts, photo-identification, and behavioral observations. Up to 200 humpback (*Megaptera novaeangliae*), 100 fin (*Balaenoptera physalus*), 150 sperm (*Physeter macrocephalus*), 200 North Atlantic right whales (*Eubalaena glacialis*), 40 sei (*B. borealis*), 100 minke (*B. acutorostrata*), 100 dwarf and pygmy sperm (*Kogia spp.*), 100 unidentified beaked, 50 killer (*Orcinus orca*), 5,000 pilot (*Globicephala spp.*), 100 false killer (*Pseudorca crassidens*), 100 pygmy killer (*Feresa attenuata*), and 100 melon-headed (*Peponocephala electra*) whales, 8,000 bottlenose (*Tursiops truncatus*), 5,000 Atlantic spotted (*Stenella frontalis*), 2,500 Risso's (*Grampus griseus*), 100 Fraser's (*Lagenodelphis hosei*), 1,000 rough-toothed (*Steno bredanensis*), 100 pantropical spotted (*S. attenuata*), 500 striped (*S. coeruleoalba*), 250 clymene (*S. clymene*), 100 spinner (*S. longirostris*), and 1,000 short-beaked common dolphins (*Delphinus delphis*), and 100 harbor porpoise (*Phocoena phocoena*) would be taken annually.

A draft environmental assessment (EA) has been prepared in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), to examine whether significant environmental impacts could result from issuance of the proposed scientific research permit. The draft EA is available for review and comment simultaneous with the scientific research permit application.

Concurrent with the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, NMFS is forwarding copies of the application to the Marine Mammal Commission and its Committee of Scientific Advisors.

Dated: December 6, 2011.

**P. Michael Payne,**

Chief, Permits and Conservation Division,  
Office of Protected Resources, National  
Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 2011-31669 Filed 12-8-11; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### United States Patent and Trademark Office

#### Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) will submit to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information

under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

**Agency:** United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO).

**Title:** Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Program.

**Form Number(s):** PTO/SB/20AT/AU/BR/CA/CN/DE/DK, PTO/SB/20EP/ES/FI/HU/IL/IS/JP/KR/MX/NO/RU/SG/TW/UK, and PTO/SB/20PCT-AT/PCT-AU/PCT-CA/PCT-CN/PCT-EP/PCT-ES/PCT-FI/PCT-JP/PCT-KR/PCT-NPI/PCT-RU/PCT-SE/PCT-US.

**Agency Approval Number:** 0651-0058.

**Type of Request:** Revision of a currently approved collection.

**Burden:** 7,800 hours annually.

**Number of Respondents:** 3,900 responses per year.

**Avg. Hours per Response:** The USPTO estimates that it will take the public approximately two hours to gather the necessary information, prepare the appropriate form, and submit a completed request to the USPTO.

**Needs and Uses:** Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) pilot programs have been established between the USPTO and the intellectual property offices of several other countries. Some of the pilot programs, such as those with Japan, Canada, and South Korea, have become permanent.

The PPH program allows applicants whose claims are determined to be patentable in the office of first filing to have the corresponding application that is filed in the office of second filing be advanced out of turn for examination. At the same time, the PPH program allows the office of second filing to exploit the search and examination results of the office of first filing, which increases examination efficiency and improves patent quality. The PCT-PPH pilot program is an expansion to the PPH program based on the framework of the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT). Information collected for the PCT is approved under OMB control number 0651-0021.

This information collection is necessary so that patent applicants may participate in the PPH or PCT-PPH programs between the USPTO and other patent offices in order to receive the benefits of more efficient examination. The forms in this collection allow participants to file a request in a corresponding U.S. application and petition to make the U.S. application special under the PPH or PCT-PPH program.

The USPTO is proposing to add two forms to this collection (PTO/SB/20NO and PTO/SB/20IS) for new participants in the PPH pilot program. The USPTO launched the PPH pilot program with

the Norwegian Industrial Property Office (NIPO) on November 1, 2011, and the Icelandic Patent Office (IPO) on December 1, 2011.

**Affected Public:** Individuals or households; businesses or other for-profits; and not-for-profit institutions.

**Frequency:** On occasion.

**Respondent's Obligation:** Required to obtain or retain benefits.

**OMB Desk Officer:** Nicholas A. Fraser, email: [Nicholas\\_A\\_Fraser@omb.eop.gov](mailto:Nicholas_A_Fraser@omb.eop.gov).

Once submitted, the request will be publicly available in electronic format through the Information Collection Review page at [www.reginfo.gov](http://www.reginfo.gov).

Paper copies can be obtained by:

- **Email:** [InformationCollection@uspto.gov](mailto:InformationCollection@uspto.gov). Include "0651-0058 copy request" in the subject line of the message.

- **Mail:** Susan K. Fawcett, Records Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent on or before January 9, 2012 to Nicholas A. Fraser, OMB Desk Officer, via email to [Nicholas\\_A\\_Fraser@omb.eop.gov](mailto:Nicholas_A_Fraser@omb.eop.gov), or by fax to (202) 395-5167, marked to the attention of Nicholas A. Fraser.

Dated: December 5, 2011.

**Susan K. Fawcett,**

*Records Officer, USPTO, Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2011-31569 Filed 12-8-11; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-16-P**

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

### Procurement List Additions

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

**ACTION:** Additions to the Procurement List.

**SUMMARY:** This action adds products and a service to the Procurement List that will be furnished by nonprofit agencies employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities.

**DATES:** Effective Date: January 9, 2012.

**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 email [CMTEFedReg@AbilityOne.gov](mailto:CMTEFedReg@AbilityOne.gov).

### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### Additions

On 9/23/2011 (76 FR 59117-59118); 9/30/2011 (76 FR 60810); and 10/7/2011 (76 FR 62391-62393), 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 service and impact of the additions on the current or most recent contractors, the Committee has determined that the products and service listed below are suitable for procurement by the Federal Government under 41 USC Chapter 85 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 service to the Government.

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

3. There are no known regulatory alternatives which would accomplish the objectives of the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act (41 USC Chapter 85) in connection with the products and service proposed for addition to the Procurement List.

### End of Certification

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

#### Products:

NSN: M.R. 829—Meat Hammer, Tenderizing.  
NPA: Cincinnati Association for the Blind, Cincinnati, OH.

**Contracting Activity:** Military Resale-Defense Commissary Agency (DeCA), Fort Lee, VA.

**Coverage:** C-List for the requirements of military commissaries and exchanges as aggregated by the Defense Commissary Agency.

NSN: M.R. 1018—Scrubber, Non Scratch, Tub and Shower.

NPA: Industries for the Blind, Inc., West Allis, WI.

**Contracting Activity:** Military Resale-Defense Commissary Agency (DeCA), Fort Lee, VA.

**Coverage:** C-List for the requirements of

military commissaries and exchanges as aggregated by the Defense Commissary Agency.

NSN: 1670-01-578-6776—Deployment Bag, Parachute, 24 Feet (T-10).

NSN: 1670-01-578-6771—Deployment Bag, Parachute, 35 Feet (T-10R).

NPA: Winston-Salem Industries for the Blind, Inc., Winston-Salem, NC.

**Contracting Activity:** Defense Logistics Agency Aviation, Richmond, VA.

**Coverage:** C-List for 100% of the requirement of the Department of Defense, as aggregated by the Defense Logistics Agency Aviation, Richmond, VA.

NSN: 8455-01-591-5248—Lapel Pin, Navy Retired, Dual Flag.

NPA: Industries for the Blind, Inc., West Allis, WI.

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

**Coverage:** C-List for 100% of the requirement of the Department of the Navy, as aggregated by the Defense Logistics Agency Troop Support, Philadelphia, PA.

#### Service:

**Service Type/Location:** Custodial Service, Whiteman AFB, MO.

NPA: Portco, Inc., Portsmouth, VA

**Contracting Activity:** Dept of the Air Force, FA4625 509 CONS CC, Whitman AFB, MO.

**Barry S. Lineback,**

*Director, Business Operations.*

[FR Doc. 2011-31615 Filed 12-8-11; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6353-01-P**

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

### Procurement List; Proposed Addition

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

**ACTION:** Proposed Addition to the Procurement List.

**SUMMARY:** The Committee is proposing to add a service to the Procurement List that will be provided by a nonprofit agency employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities.

*Comments Must Be Received On or Before:* 1/9/2012.

**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 OR TO SUBMIT COMMENTS CONTACT:** Barry S. Lineback, Telephone: (703) 603-7740, Fax: (703) 603-0655, or email [CMTEFedReg@AbilityOne.gov](mailto:CMTEFedReg@AbilityOne.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This notice is published pursuant to 41 USC