

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**International Trade Administration****Manufacturing Council**

AGENCY: International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of an opportunity to apply for membership on the Manufacturing Council.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce is currently seeking applications to fill six vacant positions on the Manufacturing Council (Council). The purpose of the Council is to advise the Secretary of Commerce on matters relating to the competitiveness of the U.S. manufacturing sector and to provide a forum for regular communication between Government and the manufacturing sector.

ADDRESSES: Please submit application information via email to jennifer.pilat@trade.gov or by mail to Jennifer Pilat, Office of Advisory Committees, Manufacturing Council Executive Secretariat, U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4043, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230.

DATES: All applications must be received by the Office of Advisory Committees by close of business on February 9, 2012.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jennifer Pilat, Manufacturing Council Executive Secretariat, Room 4043, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230, telephone: (202) 482-4501, email: jennifer.pilat@trade.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Office of Advisory Committees is accepting applications for six vacant positions on the Council for the current two-year charter term that began April 8, 2010. The appointed members shall serve until September 30, 2012 and would be eligible for possible reappointment. The member will be selected, in accordance with applicable Department of Commerce guidelines, based on his or her ability to advise the Secretary of Commerce on matters relating to the U.S. manufacturing sector, to act as a liaison among the stakeholders represented by the membership and to provide a forum for those stakeholders on current and emerging issues in the manufacturing sector. The Council's membership shall reflect the diversity of American manufacturing by representing a balanced cross-section of the U.S. manufacturing industry in terms of industry sectors, geographic locations, demographics, and company size, particularly seeking the

representation of small- and medium-sized enterprises. Based on the diversity of the manufacturing industry currently represented on the Council, the Department is particularly encouraging applicants from the high-tech or bio-tech manufacturing and alternative energy manufacturing sectors. Additional factors that may be considered in the selection of these Council members include each candidate's proven experience in promoting, developing and marketing programs in support of manufacturing industries, proven experience in job creation in the manufacturing sector, and proven abilities to manage manufacturing organizations. Given the duties and objectives of the Council, the Department particularly seeks applicants who are active manufacturing executives (Chief Executive Officer, President, or a comparable level of responsibility) and who are leaders within their local manufacturing communities and industries.

Each Council member serves as the representative of a U.S. entity in the manufacturing sector. For the purposes of eligibility, a U.S. entity is defined as a firm incorporated in the United States (or an unincorporated firm with its principal place of business in the United States) that is controlled by U.S. citizens or by another U.S. entity. An entity is not a U.S. entity if 50 percent plus one share of its stock (if a corporation, or a similar ownership interest of an unincorporated entity) is controlled, directly or indirectly, by non-U.S. citizens or non-U.S. entities.

Appointments to the Council will be made by the Secretary of Commerce. All Council members serve at the discretion of the Secretary of Commerce. Council members shall serve in a representative capacity, representing the views and interests of their particular subsector within the manufacturing sector. Council members are not Special Government Employees.

Council members receive no compensation for their participation in Council activities. Members participating in Council meetings and events are responsible for their travel, living and other personal expenses. Meetings are held regularly and not less than annually, usually in Washington, DC. Members are required to attend a majority of the Council's meetings. The current Council last convened for a briefing on September 29, 2011 in Washington, DC. The next meeting is scheduled to take place on January 20, 2012 in Washington, DC. See 76 FR 79655 (Dec. 22, 2011) for further details.

To be considered for membership, please provide the following:

1. Name and title of the individual requesting consideration.
2. A sponsor letter from the applicant on his or her entity's letterhead or, if the applicant is to represent an entity other than his or her employer, a letter from the entity to be represented, containing a brief statement of why the applicant should be considered for membership on the Council. This sponsor letter should also address the applicant's manufacturing-related experience, including any manufacturing trade policy experience.
3. The applicant's personal resume.
4. An affirmative statement that the applicant meets all eligibility criteria.
5. An affirmative statement that the applicant is not required to register as a foreign agent under the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended.
6. An affirmative statement that the applicant is not a federally registered lobbyist, and that the applicant understands that, if appointed, the applicant will not be allowed to continue to serve as a Council member if the applicant becomes a federally registered lobbyist.
7. Information regarding the control of the entity to be represented, including the governing structure and stock holdings, as appropriate, signifying compliance with the criteria set forth above.
8. The entity's size and ownership, product or service line and major markets in which the entity operates.
9. Please include all relevant contact information such as mailing address, fax, email, phone number, and support staff information where relevant.

Dated: January 5, 2012.

Jennifer Pilat,

Executive Secretary, The Manufacturing Council.

[FR Doc. 2012-731 Filed 1-13-12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DR-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 and Trademark Resource Centers Metrics.

Form Number(s): N/A.

Agency Approval Number: 0651–00xx.

Type of Request: New information collection.

Burden: 162 hours annually.

Number of Respondents: 324 responses per year (81 libraries reporting their metrics quarterly).

Avg. Hours Per Response: The USPTO estimates that it will take the Patent and Trademark Resource Center (PTRC) librarians approximately 30 minutes (0.50 hours) to submit the information in this collection, including the time to gather the necessary information, prepare the worksheet, and submit the completed request to the USPTO.

Needs and Uses: The USPTO has developed an electronic worksheet to gather the metrics required under 35 U.S.C. 2(a)(2). The PTRCs will use this electronic worksheet to provide quarterly metrics to the USPTO concerning the public's use of the member library's patent and trademark services and the member library's public outreach efforts. The USPTO will use the information in this collection to determine how to more effectively train the PTRC staff and to determine what types of new and different services the PTRCs should provide to the public in the future.

Affected Public: Non-profit organizations.

Frequency: Quarterly.

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

OMB Desk Officer: Nicholas A. Fraser, email: Nicholas_A_Fraser@omb.eop.gov.

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

Paper copies can be obtained by:

- *Email:* InformationCollection@uspto.gov. Include "0651–00xx Patent and Trademark Resource Centers Metrics 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 February 16, 2012 to Nicholas A. Fraser, OMB Desk Officer, via email to Nicholas_A_Fraser@omb.eop.gov, or by fax to (202) 395–5167, marked to the attention of Nicholas A. Fraser.

Dated: January 11, 2012.

Susan K. Fawcett,

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

[FR Doc. 2012–720 Filed 1–13–12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–16–P

CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

Teleconference and Public Meeting of the Chronic Hazard Advisory Panel on Phthalates and Phthalate Substitutes

AGENCY: Consumer Product Safety Commission.

ACTION: Notice of meetings.

SUMMARY: The Consumer Product Safety Commission ("CPSC" or "Commission") is announcing a teleconference and the seventh meeting of the Chronic Hazard Advisory Panel (CHAP) on phthalates and phthalate substitutes. The Commission appointed this CHAP on April 14, 2010, to study the effects on children's health of all phthalates and phthalate alternatives, as used in children's toys and child care articles, pursuant to section 108 of the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act of 2008 (CPSIA) (Pub. L. 110–314). The CHAP will discuss its progress toward completing its analysis of potential risks from phthalates and phthalate substitutes.

DATES: The teleconference will take place from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. EST (15:00 to 17:00 GMT) on Wednesday, February 1, 2012. Interested members of the public may listen to the CHAP's discussion. Members of the public will not have the opportunity to ask questions, comment, or otherwise participate in the teleconference. Interested parties should contact the CPSC project manager, Michael Babich, by email (mbabich@cpsc.gov) for call-in instructions no later than Monday, January 30, 2012. An additional public meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 15 through Friday, February 17, 2012. The meeting will begin at approximately 9 a.m. each day. It will end at approximately 5 p.m. on Wednesday and Thursday, and at approximately 2 p.m. on Friday. There will not be any opportunity for public participation at this meeting.

Registration and Webcast: No registration is required for the teleconference on February 1, 2012. Please follow the instructions above regarding the call-in instructions for the teleconference. Members of the public who wish to attend the February 15–17 public meeting in person may register on the day of the meeting. This meeting

will also be available live via webcast at <http://www.cpsc.gov/Webcast>.

Registration is not necessary to view the webcast.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held in the fourth floor hearing room at the Commission's offices at 4330 East West Highway, Bethesda, MD.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michael Babich, Directorate for Health Sciences, Consumer Product Safety Commission, Bethesda, MD 20814; telephone (301) 504–7253; email mbabich@cpsc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 108 of the CPSIA permanently prohibits the sale of any "children's toy or child care article" containing more than 0.1 percent of each of three specified phthalates: Di- (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (DEHP), dibutyl phthalate (DBP), and benzyl butyl phthalate (BBP). Section 108 of the CPSIA also prohibits, on an interim basis, the sale of any "children's toy that can be placed in a child's mouth" or "child care article" containing more than 0.1 percent of each of three additional phthalates: diisononyl phthalate (DINP), diisodecyl phthalate (DIDP), and di-n-octyl phthalate (DnOP).

Moreover, section 108 of the CPSIA requires the Commission to convene a CHAP "to study the effects on children's health of all phthalates and phthalate alternatives as used in children's toys and child care articles." The CPSIA requires the CHAP to complete an examination of the full range of phthalates that are used in products for children and:

- Examine all of the potential health effects (including endocrine-disrupting effects) of the full range of phthalates;
- Consider the potential health effects of each of these phthalates, both in isolation, and in combination with other phthalates;
- Examine the likely levels of children's, pregnant women's, and others' exposure to phthalates, based upon a reasonable estimation of normal and foreseeable use and abuse of such products;
- Consider the cumulative effect of total exposure to phthalates, both from children's products and from other sources, such as personal care products;
- Review all relevant data, including the most recent, best-available, peer-reviewed, scientific studies of these phthalates and phthalate alternatives that employ objective data-collection practices or employ other objective methods;
- Consider the health effects of phthalates not only from ingestion, but