

**ADDRESSES:** The workshop will be held in the Nordby Conference Room, Fisherman's Terminal, 3919 18th Avenue West, Seattle, WA 98119-1679.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. Brian Garber-Yonts, AFSC, (206) 526-6301 or Karen Palmigiano, NMFS Alaska Region, at 907-586-7240.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The workshop is being held to review preliminary draft EDR forms for catcher vessels, catcher/processors, shoreside crab processors, and stationary floating crab processors participating in the Crab Rationalization Program fisheries, as well as Registered Crab Receivers that participate in the fisheries as non-processing crab buyers. The preliminary draft EDR forms are intended to implement changes to the crab EDR requirements recommended by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) on February 4, 2012.

The Council's preferred alternative for crab EDR revisions eliminates redundant data reporting by removing requirements to report data that is collected through other sources. It also eliminates data inaccuracies in order to reduce the cost of collecting the data, and clarifies EDR form instructions to reduce the burden on those required to complete the forms. More information on the Council recommendation and a description of the preferred alternative, Modified Alternative 3, can be accessed at the link below.

The workshop is intended to gather input from participants on the preliminary draft EDR forms. Feedback received during the workshop will also be used by NMFS to develop the proposed rule to implement the Council's preferred alternative. Other topics to be addressed at the workshop include general planning for administration of the EDR process by NMFS' Data Collection Agent (Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission [PSMFC]), future potential for online reporting, and the development of the draft proposed rule implementing the Council's preferred alternative to revise the EDR requirements.

Documents describing the draft revised EDR reporting instructions and forms for catcher vessels, catcher/processors, shoreside crab processors, and stationary floating crab processors can be downloaded at <http://www.alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/sustainablefisheries/crab/rat/edr/>. The Council motion and description of the preferred alternative to revise crab EDR requirements, can be downloaded at [http://www.alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/npfmc/PDFdocuments/catch\\_shares/Crab/CrabEDR\\_Motion212.pdf](http://www.alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/npfmc/PDFdocuments/catch_shares/Crab/CrabEDR_Motion212.pdf), and the

Public Review Draft Regulatory Impact Review/Initial Regulatory Flexibility Analysis for Modification of Economic Data Reports can be downloaded at [http://www.alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/npfmc/PDFdocuments/catch\\_shares/Crab/CrabEDR212.pdf](http://www.alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/npfmc/PDFdocuments/catch_shares/Crab/CrabEDR212.pdf).

#### Special Accommodations

These workshops are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for special accommodations should be directed to Brian Garber-Yonts (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**) at least 5 working days before the workshop date.

Dated: July 2, 2012.

**Emily Menashes,**

*Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 2012-16717 Filed 7-6-12; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Patent and Trademark Office

[Docket No. PTO-P-2012-0025]

#### Extension of the Full First Action Interview Pilot Program and Request for Comments

**AGENCY:** United States Patent and Trademark Office, Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The United States Patent and Trademark Office (Office) is extending the First Action Interview (FAI) Pilot Program while completing a comprehensive review of the program, deciding what, if any, adjustments should be made to the program, and whether the program should be extended further or made permanent. The program is intended to expedite disposition of an application by enhancing communication between an applicant and an examiner at the beginning of the examination process. Specifically, the program allows an applicant to conduct an interview with an examiner prior to the issuance of an Office action, but after receiving the examiner's search results and initially identified issues. During its review, the Office will consider feedback from both internal and external stakeholders. Accordingly, in addition to announcing the extension of the program, the Office is requesting comments on the program.

**DATES:** *Comment Deadline Date:* Written comments must be received on or before August 8, 2012. No public hearing will be held.

*Extension Date:* The Office has extended the FAI Pilot Program until

August 16, 2012. Notice of this extension was placed on the USPTO's Web site just after expiration of the prior extension.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments should be sent by electronic mail message over the Internet addressed to:

*first.action.interview@uspto.gov.*

Comments may also be submitted by postal mail addressed to: United States Patent and Trademark Office, Mail Stop Comments—Patents, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, marked to the attention of Joseph F. Weiss, Jr. Although comments may be submitted by postal mail, the Office prefers to receive comments by electronic mail message over the Internet in order to facilitate posting on the Office's Internet Web site.

The comments will be available for public inspection at the Office of the Commissioner for Patents, located at Madison Building East, Tenth Floor, 600 Dulany Street, Alexandria, Virginia. Comments also will be available for viewing via the Office's Internet Web site (<http://www.uspto.gov>). Because comments will be made available for public inspection, information that is not desired to be made public, such as an address or phone number should not be included in the comments.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Joseph F. Weiss, Jr., Legal Advisor (telephone (571) 272-7759; email [joseph.weiss@uspto.gov](mailto:joseph.weiss@uspto.gov)), of the Office of the Deputy Commissioner for Patent Examination Policy. Alternatively, mail may be addressed to Mr. Weiss at Commissioner for Patents, Attn.: FFAIPP, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA, 22313-1450.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Background:* The Office published a notice implementing the Full FAI Pilot Program in 2011, which expanded the eligibility criteria to all utility applications of the previous Enhanced FAI Pilot Program. See *Full First Action Interview Pilot Program*, 1367 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 42 (June 7, 2011). See also *Enhanced First Action Interview Pilot Program*, 1347 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 173 (October 20, 2009). Under the program, participants are permitted to conduct an interview with the examiner after reviewing a Pre-Interview Communication providing the results of a prior art search conducted by the examiner.

Since the date the pilot was expanded, the Office has received over 2,100 requests to participate in the program. Of the applications that have been taken up for examination since the expansion, the Office has allowed over 35% on first action. Participants in the

program have experienced several benefits including: (1) Effectively advancing prosecution of an application before issuance of an Office action; (2) enhanced interaction between the applicant and the examiner before issuance of an Office action; (3) resolving patentability issues one-on-one with the examiner at the beginning of the prosecution process, rather than after a first Office action; and (4) expedited allowance of an application, relative to standard examination, due to the program's enhanced communication and shorter time periods for response.

*Extension:* The Office is extending the FAI Pilot Program until August 16, 2012, while it completes its evaluation of the program. During this time, the Office will be gathering and analyzing relevant information, including comments from external and internal participants in order to determine what, if any, adjustments should be made to the program and whether the program will become permanent or be further extended.

*Request for Comments:* The Office is seeking comments on the FAI Pilot Program. The Office is interested in receiving feedback as to whether the program is meeting the needs of its applicants, and whether any aspects of the program cause applicants to not participate. The following questions have been provided to help elicit the types of information the Office is interested in receiving. However, the list of questions below is not exhaustive and responses do not need to be limited to only information that answers these questions.

(1) *Based on your use of the program, did you experience the benefits of the FAI program set out above? Did you experience additional benefits?*

(2) *Did the Pre-Interview Communication provide you with sufficient, meaningful information to conduct an effective interview?*

(3) *How productive is the interview before first action in advancing prosecution?*

(4) *How would you rate the extent/utility of the information provided in the Pre-Interview Communication and subsequent Office action?*

(5) *What changes would you make to the FAI program? How would these changes improve the program?*

(6) *For any application in which you decided that the FAI program would not meet your needs, what aspect of the program made the program unsuitable for the application?*

(7) *Do you consider the FAI program to be more efficient (or otherwise beneficial) as compared to traditional prosecution?*

(8) *Should the Office make the FAI program permanent?*

Dated: June 29, 2012.

**David J. Kappos,**

*Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.*

[FR Doc. 2012-16596 Filed 7-6-12; 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 services to the Procurement List that will be furnished by nonprofit agencies employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities.

**DATES:** *Effective Date:* 8/9/2012.

**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 5/4/2012 (77 FR 26520-26521) and 5/11/2012 (77 FR 27737-27738), 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 products and services listed below are suitable for procurement by the Federal Government under 41 U.S.C. 8501-8506 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. 8501-8506) 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**

##### *Steel Roller Mop and Refill*

NSN: 7920-01-383-7927—Refill, Sponge Head

NSN: 7920-01-383-7799—Roller Mop, Industrial Steel, 12" Head

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

*Contracting Activity:* GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION, FORT WORTH, TX

*Coverage:* B—List for the Broad Government Requirement as aggregated by the General Services Administration.

##### *Nuts, Flexible Packaging*

NSN: 8925-01-E62-1745—Almonds, Shelled, Sliced, Natural (2lb bag)

NSN: 8925-01-E62-1746—Almonds, Shelled, Sliced, Blanched (2lb bag)

NSN: 8925-01-E62-1747—Almonds, Shelled, Slivered, Blanched (2lb bag)

NSN: 8925-01-E62-1748—Walnuts, English, Shelled, Halves and Pieces (2lb bag)

NSN: 8925-01-E62-1749—Walnuts, English, Shelled, Halves and Pieces (2.5lb bag)

NPA: DePaul Industries, Portland, OR

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

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

A comment was received from a contractor inferring that his company currently furnishes products to the Government that are the same or similar to the product specified in this proposal and the addition of the product to the Procurement List will adversely affect their business.

The Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled (Committee) operates pursuant to statutory and regulatory requirements. Committee regulations state that a commodity is not suitable for the Procurement List if there is "severe adverse impact on the current contractor for the specific commodity or service."