

requirements, the workgroup will consider proposals for specifications, tolerances, and user requirements for measuring devices, and possible requirements for device security and information posting requirements (e.g., information on service fees, charging rates and how to contact the party responsible for the device). A work group report will be presented at the meeting.

Uniform Engine Fuels and Automotive Lubricants Regulation

Item 237–2: Section 2.1.4. Minimum Antiknock Index (AKI), Section 2.1.5. Minimum Motor Octane Number and Table 1. Minimum Antiknock Index Requirements

This is a proposal to discontinue the obsolete practice of altitude de-rating of octane, to establish a national octane baseline, and to establish uniform octane labeling requirements. The proposal will amend the Engine Fuels and Automotive Lubricants Regulation to bring it into agreement with efforts underway in the ASTM Gasoline and Oxygenates Subcommittee to include a minimum motor octane number (MON) performance limit in its specifications for gasoline. Vehicles manufactured after 1984 include engine computer controls that maintain optimal performance when they use gasoline with an octane of 87 AKI or higher. The current practice of altitude de-rating of octane, results in octanes below 87 AKI which reduces a vehicle's efficiency and fuel economy. Increasingly, more vehicles are boosted (turbocharged/supercharged) eliminating the intake air effects caused by altitude. Additionally, consumers using gasoline with an octane AKI below 87 may void their vehicle warranty.

Dated: December 28, 2012.

Willie E. May,

Associate Director for Laboratory Programs.

[FR Doc. 2012–31596 Filed 1–2–13; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–13–P

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 Public Meeting.

SUMMARY: The Visiting Committee on Advanced Technology (VCAT or Committee), National Institute of

Standards and Technology (NIST), will meet in open session on Wednesday, February 6, 2013, from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time and Thursday, February 7, 2013, from 8:30 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. Eastern Time. The VCAT is composed of fifteen members appointed by the Under Secretary of Commerce for Standards and Technology who are eminent in such fields as business, research, new product development, engineering, labor, education, management consulting, environment, and international relations.

DATES: The VCAT will meet on Wednesday, February 6, 2013, from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time and Thursday, February 7, 2013, from 8:30 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. Eastern Time.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held in the Portrait Room, Administration Building, at NIST, 100 Bureau Drive, Gaithersburg, Maryland, 20899. Please note admittance instructions under the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Stephanie Shaw, VCAT, NIST, 100 Bureau Drive, Mail Stop 1060, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20899–1060, telephone number 301–975–2667. Ms. Shaw's email address is stephanie.shaw@nist.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority: 15 U.S.C. 278 and the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, 5 U.S.C. App.

The purpose of this meeting is for the VCAT to review and make recommendations regarding general policy for NIST, 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 followed by presentations and discussions on the Administration's priorities for 2013 in science and technology and in manufacturing, NIST's safety metrics, and NIST's activities related to the Manufacturing Extension Partnership and the Baldrige Performance Excellence Program. The VCAT Subcommittee on Safety will review its recommendations for deliberation by the Committee. The meeting will also include presentations and discussions on the VCAT agenda for 2013 and initial observations, findings, and recommendations for the 2012 VCAT Annual Report. The agenda may change to accommodate Committee business. The final agenda will be posted on the NIST Web site at <http://www.nist.gov/director/vcat/agenda.cfm>.

Individuals and representatives of organizations who would like to offer comments and suggestions related to the Committee's affairs are invited to request a place on the agenda. On February 7, approximately one-half hour will be reserved in the morning for public comments and speaking times will be assigned on a first-come, first-serve basis. The amount of time per speaker will be determined by the number of requests received, but is likely to be about 3 minutes each. The exact time for public comments will be included in the final agenda that will be posted on the NIST Web site at <http://www.nist.gov/director/vcat/agenda.cfm>. Questions from the public will not be considered during this period. Speakers who wish to expand upon their oral statements, those who had wished to speak, but could not be accommodated on the agenda, and those who were unable to attend in person are invited to submit written statements to VCAT, NIST, 100 Bureau Drive, MS 1060, Gaithersburg, Maryland, 20899, via fax at 301–216–0529 or electronically by email to gail.ehrlich@nist.gov.

All visitors to the NIST site are required to pre-register to be admitted. Please submit your name, time of arrival, email address and phone number to Stephanie Shaw by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Thursday, January 31, 2013. Non-U.S. citizens must also submit their country of citizenship, title, employer/sponsor, and address. Ms. Shaw's email address is stephanie.shaw@nist.gov and her phone number is 301–975–2667.

Dated: December 28, 2012.

Willie E. May,

Associate Director for Laboratory Programs.

[FR Doc. 2012–31597 Filed 1–2–13; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

United States Patent and Trademark Office

[Docket No. PTO–P–2012–0052]

Request for Comments and Notice of Roundtable Events for Partnership for Enhancement of Quality of Software-Related Patents

AGENCY: United States Patent and Trademark Office, Commerce.

ACTION: Request for comments. Notice of meetings.

SUMMARY: The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) seeks to form a partnership with the software community to enhance the quality of