

- R&D expense based on accepted accounting standards.
- Worldwide R&D of domestic companies.
- Business segment detail.
- R&D-related capital expenditures.
- Detailed data about the R&D workforce.
- R&D strategy and data on the potential impact of R&D on the market.
- R&D directed to application areas of particular national interest.
- Data measuring intellectual property protection activities and technology transfer.

Domestic and foreign researchers in academia, business, and government analyze and cite data from the BRDS. Among the federal government users are the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) and the White House's Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP). BEA includes R&D in the system of national accounts that measures the economic well-being of the country. BRDS data are key inputs into these accounts, which feed into the calculation of the U.S. Gross Domestic Product (GDP). The White House, in 2006, issued the American Competitiveness Initiative to "increase investments in research and development, strengthen education, and encourage entrepreneurship." In support of this initiative and in response to legislative mandates, data on R&D are delivered to OSTP, primarily in the biennial National Science Board report Science and Engineering Indicators. Also, the National Science Foundation (NSF) produces a series of publications containing R&D data including the National Patterns of R&D Resources series, the S&E State Profile series, and the annual Business R&D and Innovation series. Special reports and other publications are also prepared.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit.

Frequency: Annually.

Respondent's Obligation: Mandatory.

Legal Authority: The survey is conducted under the authority of Title 13, United States Code, Sections 8(b), 131, and 182, and Title 42, United States Code, Sections 1861–76 (National Science Foundation Act of 1950, as amended).

This information collection request may be viewed at www.reginfo.gov. Follow the instructions to view Department of Commerce collections currently under review by OMB.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this

notice to OIRA_Submission@omb.eop.gov or fax to (202) 395–5806.

Sheleen Dumas,

Departmental Lead PRA Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Foreign-Trade Zones Board

[B–69–2018]

Foreign-Trade Zone (FTZ) 203—Moses Lake, Washington, Notification of Proposed Production Activity, Joyson Safety Systems Acquisition, LLC (Automotive Airbag Inflators and Propellants), Moses Lake, Washington

Joyson Safety Systems Acquisition, LLC (JSSA) submitted a notification of proposed production activity to the FTZ Board for its facility in Moses Lake, Washington. The notification conforming to the requirements of the regulations of the FTZ Board (15 CFR 400.22) was received on October 30, 2018.

JSSA already has authority to produce automotive airbag inflators and related propellants within Subzone 203A. The current request would add foreign status materials/components to the scope of authority. Pursuant to 15 CFR 400.14(b), additional FTZ authority would be limited to the specific foreign-status materials/components described in the submitted notification (as described below) and subsequently authorized by the FTZ Board.

Production under FTZ procedures could exempt JSSA from customs duty payments on the foreign-status materials/components used in export production. On its domestic sales, for the foreign-status materials/components noted below, JSSA would be able to choose the duty rates during customs entry procedures that apply to the finished products in the existing scope of authority. JSSA would be able to avoid duty on foreign-status components which become scrap/waste. Customs duties also could possibly be deferred or reduced on foreign-status production equipment.

The materials/components sourced from abroad include: Strontium tinnite; cupric oxide; boron carbide; calcium stearate; guanidine nitrate; nitroguanidine; and, hybrid curtain inflator (HCI) bottles/bodies (metal cylinders) (duty rate ranges from duty-free 6.5%). The request indicates that certain materials/components are subject to special duties under Section

232 of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962 (Section 232) and Section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974 (Section 301), depending on the country of origin. The applicable Section 232 and Section 301 decisions require subject merchandise to be admitted to FTZs in privileged foreign status (19 CFR 146.41).

Public comment is invited from interested parties. Submissions shall be addressed to the Board's Executive Secretary at the address below. The closing period for their receipt is December 17, 2018.

A copy of the notification will be available for public inspection at the Office of the Executive Secretary, Foreign-Trade Zones Board, Room 21013, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230–0002, and in the "Reading Room" section of the Board's website, which is accessible via www.trade.gov/ftz.

For further information, contact Christopher Wedderburn at Chris.Wedderburn@trade.gov or (202) 482–1963.

Dated: October 31, 2018.

Andrew McGilvray,

Executive Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Foreign-Trade Zones Board

[B–66–2018]

Foreign-Trade Zone (FTZ) 259—International Falls, Minnesota; Notification of Proposed Production Activity; Digi-Key Corporation; (Consumer Electronics); Thief River Falls, Minnesota

Digi-Key Corporation (Digi-Key) submitted a notification of proposed production activity to the FTZ Board for its facilities in Thief River Falls, Minnesota. The notification conforming to the requirements of the regulations of the FTZ Board (15 CFR 400.22) was received on October 31, 2018.

The applicant indicates that it will be submitting a separate application for FTZ designation at the Digi-Key facilities under FTZ 259. The facilities are used for light value-added production and kitting of cable connectors and small fans for electronics. Pursuant to 15 CFR 400.14(b), FTZ activity would be limited to the specific foreign-status materials and components and specific finished products described in the submitted notification (as described below) and