

Director, Office of the Chief Administrative 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 March 4, 2019 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.

**Marcie Lovett,**

*Records Management Division Director, USPTO, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2019-00610 Filed 1-31-19; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-16-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Patent and Trademark Office

#### Patents External Quality Survey

**ACTION:** Proposed collection; comment request.

**SUMMARY:** The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, invites comments on a proposed extension of an existing information collection.

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted on or before April 2, 2019.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments by any of the following methods:

- *Email:* [InformationCollection@uspto.gov](mailto:InformationCollection@uspto.gov). Include '0651-0057 comment' in the subject line of the message.
- *Federal Rulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>.

- *Mail:* Marcie Lovett, Director, Records and Information Governance Division, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Requests for additional information should be directed to David Fitzpatrick, Management Analyst, Office of Patent Quality Assurance, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450; by telephone at 571-272-0525; or by email to [David.Fitzpatrick@USPTO.GOV](mailto:David.Fitzpatrick@USPTO.GOV), with "0651-0057 comment" in the subject line. Additional information about this

collection is also available at <http://www.reginfo.gov> under "Information Collection Review."

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

#### I. Abstract

The USPTO developed the Patents External Quality Survey in 2006 as part of its quality improvement efforts. This survey gauges customer satisfaction with respect to examination quality. It uses a longitudinal, rotating panel design to assess changes in customer perceptions, identify areas for improvement, and pinpoint key areas for additional examiner training. Participants of this survey include patent agents, attorneys, and other individuals from large domestic corporations (including those with 500+ employees), small and medium-size businesses, and universities and other non-profit research organizations. The USPTO also plans to survey independent inventors. The USPTO does not survey foreign entities.

From the Patent Application and Location Management (PALM) database, the USPTO draws a random sample of firms and entities that have filed more than 6 patent applications in a 12-month period. These firms and entities typically represent 95% of total domestic patent applications filed over the same period. The Patents External Quality Survey uses a rotating panel design in order to measure changes in the quality of USPTO's work over time. Customers participate in two consecutive data collection periods (waves) before rotating out of the panel. Each wave is conducted over a two month period. One wave occurs during the months of January and February and the other wave occurs during July and August. The rotating panel design means that for each wave, 50 percent of the panel have participated in a prior wave and 50 percent are being surveyed for the first time. At the next panel rotation, the 50 percent of customers who have participated in two consecutive waves will be dropped, and the panel will be refreshed.

Respondents receive the Patents External Quality Survey by mail and can respond either by mail or electronically on the USPTO website. A survey packet containing the questionnaire, a separate cover letter prepared by the Deputy Commissioner for Patent Quality, a postage-paid, pre-addressed return envelope, and instructions for

completing the survey electronically are mailed to all respondents. A pre-notification letter, reminder/thank you postcards, and telephone calls are used to encourage a response.

This is a voluntary survey and all responses remain confidential. The collected data is not linked to the respondent, and contact information that is used for sampling purposes is maintained in a separate file from the quantitative data. Respondents are not required to provide any identifying information such as their name, address, or Social Security Number. Instead, in order to access and complete the online survey, respondents must use the username, password, and survey ID number provided by the USPTO.

#### II. Method of Collection

Electronically via email; by postal mail, facsimile, or hand delivery in paper form.

#### III. Data

*OMB Number:* 0651-0057.

*IC Instruments and Forms:* No forms.

*Type of Review:* Extension of an existing information collection.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households; businesses or other for-profits; and non-profit institutions.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 2,500 responses per year.

*Estimated Time per Response:* The USPTO estimates that it will take the public 10 minutes (.17 hours) to respond to the survey, including the time to gather the necessary information along with completing and submitting the survey. The time per response, estimated annual responses, and estimated annual hour burden associated with each instrument in this collection are shown in the table below.

*Estimated Total Annual Respondent Burden Hours:* 416.67 hours.

*Estimated Total Annual Respondent (Hourly) Cost Burden:* \$182,501.46. The USPTO expects that attorneys will complete these applications. The professional hourly rate for attorneys is \$438. The rate is established by estimates in the 2017 Report on the Economic Survey, published by the Committee on Economics of Legal Practice of the American Intellectual Property Law Association. Using this hourly rate, the USPTO estimates that the total respondent cost burden for this collection is \$182,501.46 per year.

IC No.	Item	Hours (a)	Responses (yr) (b)	Burden (hrs/yr) (c) = (a) × (b)	Rate (\$/hr) (d)	Total cost (e) = (c) × (d)
1 .....	Patents External Quality Survey .....	0.17	325	54.17	\$438.00	\$23,726.46
2 .....	Electronic Patents External Quality Survey.	0.17	2,175	362.50	438.00	158,775.00
Total .....	.....	.....	2,500	416.67	.....	182,501.46

*Estimated Total Annual (Non-hour) Respondent Cost Burden:* \$0. There are no annual (non-hour) costs associated with this information collection. Respondents do not need to submit filing fees with these surveys. The USPTO covers the costs of all survey materials and provides postage-paid, pre-addressed return envelopes for the completed mail surveys so there are no postage costs associated with this information collection.

#### IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on:

(a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility;

(b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information;

(c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, e.g., the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

**Marcie Lovett,**

*Director, Records and Information Governance Division, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer, USPTO.*

[FR Doc. 2019-00611 Filed 1-31-19; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-16-P**

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

##### Procurement List; Proposed Additions and Deletions

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

**ACTION:** Proposed additions to and deletions from the Procurement List.

**SUMMARY:** The Committee is proposing to add a product and services to the Procurement List that will be furnished by nonprofit agencies employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities, and deletes products and services previously furnished by such agencies.

**DATES:** Comments must be received on or before: March 3, 2019.

**ADDRESSES:** Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, 1401 S Clark Street, Suite 715, Arlington, Virginia 22202-4149.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For further information or to submit comments contact: Michael R. Jurkowski, Telephone: (703) 603-2117, Fax: (703) 603-0655, or email [CMTEFedReg@AbilityOne.gov](mailto:CMTEFedReg@AbilityOne.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This notice is published pursuant to 41 U.S.C. 8503(a)(2) and 41 CFR 51-2.3. Its purpose is to provide interested persons an opportunity to submit comments on the proposed actions.

##### Additions

If the Committee approves the proposed additions, the entities of the Federal Government identified in this notice will be required to procure the product and services listed below from nonprofit agencies employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities. The following product and services are proposed for addition to the Procurement List for production by the nonprofit agencies listed:

##### Product

**NSN—Product Name:** 8465-00-NIB-0263—Airborne Rucksack, Modular Lightweight Load-Carrying Equipment (MOLLE), OCP2015

**Mandatory Sources of Supply:** Winston-Salem Industries for the Blind, Inc., Winston-Salem, NC, Peckham Vocational Industries, Inc., Lansing, MI

**Mandatory for:** 20,000 units annually for the requirement for the U.S. Army

**Contracting Activity:** DEPT OF THE ARMY, W6QK ACC-APG NATICK

##### Services

**Service Type:** Administrative Service  
**Mandatory for:** US Army Corps of Engineers, Huntsville Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville, AL

**Mandatory Source of Supply:** Huntsville

Rehabilitation Foundation, Huntsville, AL

**Contracting Activity:** DEPT OF THE ARMY, W2V6 USA ENG SPT CTR HUNTSVILLE

**Service Type:** Facilities Management and Related Services

**Mandatory for:** US Army, Eastern ARNG Aviation Training Site, Fort Indiantown Gap, Annville, PA

**Mandatory Source of Supply:** Opportunity Center, Incorporated, Wilmington, DE

**Contracting Activity:** DEPT OF THE ARMY, W7NX USPFO ACTIVITY PA ARNG

##### Deletions

The following products and services are proposed for deletion from the Procurement List:

##### Products

**NSN—Product Name:** MR 893—Ergo Grater  
**Mandatory Source of Supply:** Cincinnati Association for the Blind, Cincinnati, OH

**NSNs—Product Names:**

MR 443—Candle, Soy, Cucumber Melon Scented, 8.5oz

MR 445—Candle, Soy, Thai Lemon Scented, 8.5oz

MR 447—Candle, Soy, Venetian Nights Scented, 8.5oz

MR 410—Bag, Shopping Tote, Laminated, Small, Summer

MR 411—Bag, Shopping Tote, Laminated, Large, Summer

MR 412—Grocery Shopping Tote Bag, Laminated, Seasonal, Fall, Small

MR 422—Grocery Shopping Tote Bag, Laminated, Breast Cancer, Small

MR 459—Grocery Shopping Tote Bag, Laminated, Easter, Blue Eggs, Gift

MR 460—Grocery Shopping Tote Bag, Laminated, Easter, Blue Eggs, Small

MR 461—Grocery Shopping Tote Bag, Laminated, Easter, Blue Eggs, Large

MR 466—Grocery Shopping Tote Bag, Laminated, Easter, Orange Eggs, Gift

MR 468—Grocery Shopping Tote Bag, Laminated, Easter, Orange Eggs, Large

MR 11011—Grocery Shopping Tote Bag, Laminated, Commissary 150th Anniversary, Exterior Scene

MR 11050—Grocery Shopping Tote Bag, Laminated, Spring, Purple, Small

MR 11084—Grocery Shopping Tote Bag, Laminated, Heart Smart, Small

**Mandatory Source of Supply:** Industries for the Blind and Visually Impaired, Inc., West Allis, WI

**NSN—Product Name:** MR 11301—Cooler, Styrofoam, Handled, 12 Qt.

**Mandatory Source of Supply:** Winston-Salem Industries for the Blind, Inc., Winston-Salem, NC