

Estimated total annual burden of respondents: 100 hours.

Copies of this information collection can be obtained from Valerie Countiss, the agency Information Collection Coordinator, at (202) 720-6713.

Request for comments: Send comments regarding (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (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 those who are to respond, including through the use of automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments may be sent to Stephen C. Hammond, Team Leader, Import Policies and Programs Division, Foreign Agricultural Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Stop 1021, Washington, DC 20250-1021. All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

Signed at Washington, DC, February 12, 1997.

August Schumacher, Jr.,

Administrator, Foreign Agricultural Service.
[FR Doc. 97-3994 Filed 2-18-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-10-M

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Institute of Standards and Technology

[Docket No. 961121324-7019-03]

RIN 0693-ZA14

Announcement of Availability of Funding for Focused Program Competitions—Advanced Technology Program (ATP)

AGENCY: National Institute of Standards and Technology, Technology Administration, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Technology Administration's National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) announces the availability of funding for four Focused Program competitions under the Advanced Technology Program (ATP) for fiscal year 1997,

targeted on specific technology areas. The four Focused Program competitions being held are: (1) 97-04, Digital Data Storage; (2) 97-05, Technologies for the Integration of Manufacturing Applications (TIMA); (3) 97-06, Component-Based Software (CBS); and (4) 97-07, Tissue Engineering. This notice provides general information for these Focused Program competitions.

DATES: Proposal due dates and other specific instructions will be published in the Commerce Business Daily (CBD) at the time the competitions are announced. Dates, times, and locations of Proposers' Conferences held for interested parties considering applying for funding will also be announced in the CBD.

ADDRESSES: Information on the ATP may be obtained from the following address: National Institute of Standards and Technology, Advanced Technology Program, Administration Building (Bldg. 101), Room A407, Quince Orchard & Clopper Roads, Gaithersburg, MD 20899-0001.

Additionally, information on the ATP is available on the Internet through the World Wide Web (WWW) at <http://www.atp.nist.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for ATP information, application materials, and/or to have your name added to the ATP mailing list for future mailings may also be made by:

(a) Calling the ATP toll-free "hotline" number at 1-800-ATP-FUND or 1-800-287-3863. You will have the option of hearing recorded messages regarding the status of the ATP or speaking to one of our customer representatives who will take your name and address. If our representatives are all busy when you call, leave a message after the tone. To ensure that the information is entered correctly, please speak distinctly and slowly and spell the words that might cause confusion. Leave your phone number as well as your name and address:

(b) Sending a facsimile (fax) to 301-926-9524 or 301-590-3053; or
(c) Sending electronic mail to atp@nist.gov. Include your name, full mailing address, and phone number.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The statutory authority for the ATP is Section 5131 of the Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act of 1988 (Pub. L. 100-418, 15 U.S.C. 278n), as modified by Pub. L. 102-245. The ATP implementing regulations are published at 15 CFR part 295. The Catalog of

Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number and program title for the ATP are 11.612, Advanced Technology Program (ATP).

The ATP is a rigorously competitive cost-sharing program designed to assist United States industry/businesses pursue high-risk, enabling technologies with significant commercial/economic potential. The ATP provides multi-year funding to single companies and to industry-led joint ventures to pursue research and development (R&D) projects with high-payoff potential for the nation. The ATP accelerates enabling technologies that, because they are risky, are unlikely to be developed in time to compete in rapidly changing world markets without such a partnership between industry and the Federal government. The ATP challenges industry to take on projects characterized by high technical risk but commensurately high potential payoff to the nation. Proposers must provide credible arguments as to the project feasibility.

The funding instrument used in ATP awards is a "cooperative agreement." Through the cooperative agreement, the ATP fosters a government-industry partnership to accomplish a public purpose of support or stimulation. NIST plans a substantial role in these awards by providing technical assistance and monitoring the technical work and business progress.

Funding Availability

An estimated \$15 million in first year funding is available for each of the Focused Program Competitions 97-04, 97-05, and 97-06. An estimated \$12 million in first year funding is available for Focused Program Competition 97-07. The ATP reserves the right to utilize for any competition more or less funding than the amounts stated above. The actual number of proposals funded will depend on the quality of the proposals received and the amount of funding requested in the highest ranked proposals. Outyear funding beyond the first year is contingent on the approval of future Congressional appropriations and satisfactory project performance.

Eligibility Requirements, Selection Criteria, and Proposal Review Process

The eligibility requirements, selection criteria, and the proposal review process are discussed in detail in the ATP implementing regulations published at 15 CFR Part 295.

Funding Amounts, Award Period and Cost Sharing (Matching) Requirements

(a) Single companies can receive up to \$2 million of ATP funds for up to 3

years. Single companies do not have to provide matching funds, but they are reimbursed for direct costs only. Single companies are responsible for securing funding for all overhead/indirect costs.

(b) Joint ventures can receive a minority share of the total project costs for up to 5 years. Joint ventures must cost-share (matching funds) more than 50 percent of the total project costs (direct plus indirect costs) for each quarter that the ATP funds the project. Subcontractors funded under an ATP cooperative agreement may not contribute towards the matching-fund requirement.

Application Forms and Proposal Preparation Kit

A new November 1996 version of the ATP Proposal Preparation Kit is available upon request from the ATP at the address and phone numbers noted in this notice. Note that the ATP mailed the Kit to all those individuals whose names are currently on the ATP mailing list. The Kit contains proposal cover sheets, other required forms, background material, and instructions for submission of proposals. All proposals must be prepared in accordance with the instructions in the Kit.

Submission of Revised Proposals

An applicant may submit a full proposal that is a revised version of a full proposal submitted to a previous ATP competition. NIST will examine such proposals to determine whether substantial revisions have been made. Where the revisions are determined not to be substantial, NIST reserves the right to score and rank, or where appropriate, to reject, such proposals based on reviews of the previously submitted proposal.

Other Requirements

(a) Federal Policies and Procedures. Recipients and subrecipients are subject to all Federal laws and Federal and Department of Commerce policies, regulations, and procedures applicable to Federal financial assistance awards as identified in the cooperative agreement award.

(b) Past Performance. Unsatisfactory performance under prior Federal awards may result in a proposal not being considered for funding.

(c) Pre-award Activities. If applicants incur any costs prior to an award being made, they do solely at their own risk of not being reimbursed by the Government. Only written authorization from the NIST Grants Officer will obligate NIST to cover pre-award costs.

(d) No Obligation for Future Funding. If a proposal is selected for funding, NIST has no obligation to provide any additional future funding in connection with that award. Renewal of an award to increase funding or extend the period of performance is at the total discretion of NIST.

(e) Delinquent Federal Debts. No award of Federal funds shall be made to an applicant or recipient who has an outstanding delinquent Federal debt until either the delinquent account is paid in full, a negotiated repayment schedule is established and at least one payment is received, or other arrangements satisfactory to NIST are made.

(f) Name Check Review. All for-profit and non-profit applicants are subject to a name check review process. Name checks are intended to reveal if any key individuals associated with the applicant have been convicted of or are presently facing criminal charges such as fraud, theft, perjury, or other matters which significantly reflect on the applicant's management, honesty, or financial integrity.

(g) Primary Applicant Certification. All primary applicants (including all joint venture participants) must submit a completed form CD-511, "Certifications Regarding Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters; Drug-Free Workplace Requirements and Lobbying," and the following explanation is hereby provided:

(1) Nonprocurement Debarment and Suspension. Prospective participants, as defined at 15 CFR part 26, section 105 are subject to 15 CFR part 26, "Nonprocurement Debarment and Suspension" and the related section of the certification form prescribed above applies;

(2) Drug-Free Workplace. Grantees (as defined at 15 CFR part 605) are subject to 15 CFR 26, subpart F, "Governmentwide Requirements for Drug-Free Workplace (Grants)" and the related section of the certification form prescribed above applies;

(3) Anti-Lobbying. Persons (as defined at 15 CFR part 28, section 105) are subject to the lobbying provisions of 31 U.S.C. 1352, "Limitations on use of appropriated funds to influence certain Federal contracting and financial transactions," and the lobbying section of the certification form prescribed above applies to applications/bids for grants, cooperative agreements, and contracts for more than \$100,000, and loans and loan guarantees for more than \$150,000, or the single family maximum mortgage limit for affected programs, whichever is greater; and,

(4) Anti-Lobbying Disclosures. Any applicant that has paid or will pay for lobbying using any funds must submit an SF-LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities," as required under 15 CFR part 28, Appendix B.

(h) Lower Tier Certification. Recipients shall require applicants/bidders for subgrants, contracts, subcontracts, or other lower tier covered transactions at any tier under the award to submit, if applicable, a completed Form CD-512, "Certifications Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion—Lower Tier Covered Transactions and Lobbying" and Form SF-LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities." Although the CD-512 is intended for the use of primary recipients and should not be transmitted to NIST, the SF-LLL submitted by any tier recipient or subrecipient should be forwarded in accordance with the instructions contained in the award document.

(i) False Statements. A false statement on any application for funding under ATP may be grounds for denial or termination of funds and grounds for possible punishment by a fine or imprisonment as provided in 18 U.S.C. 1001.

(j) Intergovernmental Review. The ATP does not involve the mandatory payment of any matching funds from state or local government and does not affect directly any state or local government. Accordingly, the Department of Commerce has determined that Executive Order 12372, "Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs" is not applicable to this program.

(k) American-Made Equipment and Products. Applicants are hereby notified that they are encouraged, to the greatest extent practicable, to purchase American-made equipment and products with the funding provided under this program in accordance with Congressional intent.

(l) Paperwork Reduction Act. This notice contains collection of information requirements subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) which have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB Control No. 0693-0009). Notwithstanding any other provision of the law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall any person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with a collection of information, subject to the requirements of the PRA, unless that collection of information displays a currently valid OMB Control No.

Dated: February 12, 1997.
 Elaine Buntin-Mines,
Director, Program Office.
 [FR Doc. 97-3996 Filed 2-18-97; 8:45 am]
 BILLING CODE 3510-13-M

COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

Chicago Mercantile Exchange Application for Designation as Contract Markets for Futures and Options on the New Zealand Dollar

AGENCY: Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

ACTION: Notice of proposed contract market rule change.

SUMMARY: The Chicago Mercantile Exchange (CME or Exchange) has applied for designation as a contract market for futures and options on the New Zealand Dollar. The Acting Director of the Division of Economic Analysis (Division) of the Commission, acting pursuant to the authority delegated by Commission Regulation 140.96, has determined that publication of the proposals for comment is in the public interest, will assist the Commission in considering the views of interested persons, and is consistent with the purpose of the Commodity Exchange Act.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before March 21, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons should submit their views and comments to Jean A. Webb, Secretary, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, Three Lafayette Centre, 21st Street, NW Washington, DC 20581. In addition, comments may be sent by facsimile transmission to facsimile number (202) 418-5521, or by electronic mail to secretary@cftc.gov. Reference should be made to the CME New Zealand Dollar futures and options contracts.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Please contact Stephen Sherrod of the Division of Economic Analysis, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, Three Lafayette Centre, 21st Street NW, Washington, 20581, telephone (202) 418-5277. Facsimile number: (202) 418-5527. Electronic mail: ssherrod@cftc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Copies of the terms and conditions will be available for inspection at the Office of the Secretariat, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, Three Lafayette Centre, 21st Street NW, Washington, DC 20581. Copies of the terms and conditions can be obtained through the Office of the Secretariat by mail at the

above address or by phone at (202) 418-5100.

Other materials submitted by the CME in support of the applications for contract market designation may be available upon request pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and the Commission's regulations thereunder (17 C.F.R. Part 145 (1987)), except to the extent they are entitled to confidential treatment as set forth in 17 C.F.R. 145.5 and 145.9. Requests for copies of such materials should be made to the FOI, Privacy and Sunshine Act Compliance Staff of the Office of Secretariat at the Commission's headquarters in accordance with 17 C.F.R. 145.7 and 145.8.

Any person interested in submitting written data, views, or arguments on the proposed terms and conditions, or with respect to other materials submitted by the CME, should send such comments to Jean A. Webb, Secretary, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, Three Lafayette Centre, 21st Street NW, Washington, DC 20581 by the specified date.

Issued in Washington, DC, on February 12, 1997.

Blake Imel,

Acting Director.

[FR Doc. 97-4003 Filed 2-18-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6351-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: National Security Agency.

ACTION: Notice.

In compliance with Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act, the National Security Agency announces a proposal to collect information and seeks public comment on the provisions thereof. 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 of the proposed information collection; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the information collection on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms and information technology. **DATES:** Consideration will be given to all comments received by April 21, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposed information collection should be sent to the Director, National Security Agency, Attn: COTS Assistance and Evaluation Division (NCAIP Coordinator), 9800 Savage Road STE 6740, Fort George G. Meade, MD 20755-6740.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

To request additional information on this proposed information collection or to obtain a copy of the proposal and associated collection instruments, please write to the above address, or call the NSA Commercial Advice Information Program Coordinator at (410) 859-4458.

Title, Associated Form, and OMB Number: NSA Commercial Advice Information Program, Provider Response Form, Form Number TBD, OMB Number TBD.

Needs and Uses: The information collection requirement is necessary to obtain and record essential contact information and professional qualifications of individuals interested in providing technical advice to trusted computer product vendors or commercial evaluation facilities in support of the NSA Trusted Product Evaluation Program and the Trust Technology Assessment Program. The contact and technical capability information obtained from prospective providers will be published in one or more public venues (e.g., Federal Register, NSA computer systems for Internet World Wide Web and Dockmaster access, handbook or brochure) to provide maximum exposure to vendors and evaluation facilities interested in obtaining advice for commercial providers.

Affected Public: Any individual in the private sector interested in providing technical advice, on a fee-for-service or other paid or unpaid basis, to trusted product vendors or commercial evaluation facilities.

Annual Burden Hours: 25.

Number of Respondents: 100.

Responses per Respondent: 1.

Average Burden per Response: 15 minutes.

Frequency: On occasion.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Summary of Information Collection

The National Security Agency (NSA) plans to implement a commercial advice information program in support of its Trusted Product Evaluation Program (TPEP). The objective of the NSA Commercial Advice Information Program (NCAIP) is to provide a timely source of information to vendors on how to obtain technical advice for