

Department's determination. Publication of this notice fulfills that obligation. The CAFC also held that the Department must suspend liquidation of the subject merchandise until there is a "conclusive" decision in the case. Therefore, pursuant to *Timken*, Commerce must suspend liquidation pending the expiration of the period to appeal the CIT's December 18, 1997 ruling or, if that ruling is appealed, pending a final decision by the CAFC. However, because entries of the subject merchandise already are being suspended pursuant to the countervailing duty order in effect, the Department need not order the Customs Service to suspend liquidation. Further, consistent with *Timken*, the Department will order the Customs Service to change the relevant cash deposit rates in the event that the CIT's ruling is not appealed or the CAFC issues a final decision affirming the CIT's ruling.

Dated: January 13, 1998.

Robert S. LaRussa,

Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.

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BILLING CODE 3510-DS-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[Docket No. 971202287-7287-01]

Special American Business Internship Training Program (SABIT)

AGENCY: International Trade Administration, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces availability of funds for the Special American Business Internship Training Program (SABIT), for training business executives (also referred to as "interns") from Russia. The Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration (ITA) established the SABIT program in September 1990 to assist the former Soviet Union's transition to a market economy. Since that time, SABIT has been matching business executives and scientists from the New Independent States of the former Soviet Union (NIS) with U.S. firms which provide them with three to six months of hands-on training in a U.S. market economy.

Under the SABIT program, qualified U.S. firms will receive funds through a cooperative agreement with ITA to help defray the cost of hosting interns. ITA will interview and recommend eligible interns to participating companies. *Interns must come from Russia and be*

citizens of the Russian Federation. The U.S. firms will be expected to provide the interns with a hands-on, non-academic, executive training program designed to maximize their exposure to management or commercially-oriented scientific operations. At the end of the training program, interns must return to Russia. All interns will be selected from a pre-screened group of qualified mid-level managers; nominations from outside of this group will not be accepted.

DATES: The closing date for applications is March 31, 1998. An original and two copies of the application (Standard Form 424 (Rev. 4-92) and supplemental material) are to be sent to the address designated in the Application Kit and postmarked by the closing date.

Applications will be considered on a "rolling" basis as they are received, subject to the availability of funds. If available funds are depleted prior to the closing date, a notice to that effect will be published in the **Federal Register**. Processing of complete applications takes approximately two to three months. Competitive Application kits will be available from ITA starting on January 23, 1998.

ADDRESSES: To obtain a copy of the Application Kit please E-mail: sabitapply@usita.gov (please state which format, e.g. WordPerfect® 6.1), telephone (202) 482-0073, facsimile (202) 482-2443 (these are not toll free numbers), or send a written request with two self-addressed mailing labels to "Application Request" The SABIT Program, HCHB Room 3319, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC, 20230.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Liesel Duhon, Director, SABIT Program, U.S. Department of Commerce, phone—(202) 482-0073, facsimile—(202) 482-2443. These are not toll free numbers. Only one copy of the Application Kit will be provided to each organization requesting it, but it may be reproduced by the requester.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: SABIT exposes Russian business managers and scientific managers to a completely new way of thinking in which demand, consumer satisfaction, and profits drive production. Senior-level interns visiting the U.S. for internship programs with public or private sector companies will be exposed to an environment which will provide them with practical knowledge for transforming their countries' enterprises and economies to the free market. The program provides first-hand, eye-opening experience to managers and scientists which cannot

be duplicated by American managers traveling to their territories.

Business Executives

SABIT assists economic restructuring in Russia by providing top-level business managers with practical training in American methods of innovation and management in such areas as strategic planning, financing, production, distribution, marketing, accounting, wholesaling, and labor relations. This first-hand experience in the U.S. economy enables interns to become leaders in establishing and operating a market economy in Russia, and creates a unique opportunity for U.S. firms to familiarize key executives from Russia with their products and services.

Scientist Managers

SABIT provides opportunities for gifted scientists to apply their skills to peaceful research and development in the civilian sector, in areas such as defense conversion, medical research, and the environment, and exposes them to the role of scientific research in a market economy where applicability of research relates to business success. Sponsoring firms in the U.S. scientific community also benefit from exchanging information and ideas, and different approaches to new technologies.

Funding Availability

Pursuant to section 632(a) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended (the "Act") funding for the program will be provided by the United States Agency for International Development (A.I.D). ITA will award financial assistance and administer the program pursuant to the authority contained in section 635(b) of the Act and other applicable grant rules. The estimated amount of financial assistance available for the program is \$175,000. Additional funding is anticipated at a future date in 1998. Funding Instrument and Project Duration: Federal assistance will be awarded pursuant to a cooperative agreement between ITA and the recipient firm. All internships are three months; however, ITA reserves the right to allow an intern to stay for a shorter period of time (no less than one month) if the U.S. company agrees and the intern demonstrates a need for a shorter internship based on his or her management responsibilities. ITA will reimburse companies for the round trip international travel of each intern from the intern's home city in Russia to the U.S. internship site, upon submission to ITA of the paid travel invoice, payment receipt, or other evidence of payment

and the form SF-270, "Request for Advance or Reimbursement." Travel under the program is subject to the Fly America Act. ITA will reimburse companies for up to \$500 per month housing subsidy. Recipient firms provide \$30 per day directly to interns. ITA will reimburse recipient firms for this stipend of \$30 per day per intern for up to three months as well as the actual price of the monthly housing, up to \$500 per month, upon submission by company of an end-of-internship report and form SF-270. If the Russian Government pays for the international airline travel, recipients will not be eligible for reimbursement for airtravel. In general, each award will have a cap of \$5,000 per intern for total cost of airline travel, housing subsidy and stipend. ITA reserves the right to allow an award to exceed this amount in cases of unusually high costs, such as airfare from remote regions of Russia. However, the total payment cannot exceed the award amount. There are no specific matching requirements for the awards. Host firms, however, are expected to bear the costs beyond those covered by the award, including: visa fees, additional housing costs beyond the \$500 housing subsidy per month, insurance, any food and incidentals costs beyond \$30 per day, any training-related travel within the U.S., and provision of the hands-on training for the interns.

U.S. firms wishing to utilize SABIT in order to be matched with an intern without applying for financial assistance may do so. Such firms will be responsible for all costs, including travel expenses, related to sponsoring the intern. However, prior to acceptance as a SABIT intern, work plans and candidates must be approved by the SABIT Program. Furthermore, program training will be monitored by SABIT staff and evaluated upon completion of training.

Eligibility

Eligible applicants for the SABIT program will include any for profit or non-profit U.S. corporation, association, organization or other public or private entity. Agencies or divisions of the federal government are not eligible.

Evaluation Criteria

Consideration for financial assistance will be given to those SABIT proposals which:

(1). Demonstrate a commitment to the intent and goals of the program to provide practical, on-the-job, non-academic, non-classroom, training: in the case of manager interns, an appropriate management training

experience, or, in the case of scientific managers, a practical, commercially-oriented scientific training experience.

(2). Respond to the priority needs of senior business managers and scientists in Russia, as determined by ITA.

(3). Host firms must be solidly committed to interns' return to Russia upon completion of the internships.

(4). Present a realistic work plan describing in detail the training program to be provided to the SABIT intern(s). Work plans must include the following:

(a). Whether Applicant is applying to host managers or scientific managers, or both (and the number of each); (b). the duration of the internship. As noted above, ITA reserves the right to allow an intern with very senior management responsibilities to stay for a shorter period (minimum of one month) if the U.S. company agrees and the intern demonstrates a compelling need for a shorter internship based on his or her management responsibilities; (c). the location(s) of the internship; (d). the name, address, and telephone number of the designated internship coordinator; (e). name(s) of division(s) in which the intern(s) will be placed; (f). the individual(s) in the U.S. company under whose supervision the intern will train; (g). the proposed internship training activities. The components of the training activities must be described in as much detail as possible, preferably on a week-by-week basis. The description of the training activities should include an accounting of what the intern's(s') duties and responsibilities will be during the training; (h). the anticipated housing arrangements to be provided for the intern(s). Note that housing arrangements should be suitable for mid- and senior-level professionals, and that each intern must be provided with a private room.

(5). Include a brief objectives section indicating why the Applicant wishes to provide an internship to a manager(s) or scientist(s) from Russia, and how the proposed internship would further the purpose of the SABIT program as described above.

(6). Provide a general description of the profile of the intern(s) the Applicant would like to host, including: educational background; occupational/professional background (including number of years and areas of experience); size and nature of organization at which the intern(s) is/are presently employed; preference for the region of Russia where the intern(s) is/are employed; and whether Applicant is open to sponsoring interns from a variety of Russian regions.

(7). Indicate whether Applicant organization operates in one or more of

the following business sectors: (a). Agribusiness (including food processing and distribution, and agricultural equipment), (b). Defense conversion, (c). Energy, (d). Environment (including environmental clean-up), (e). Financial services (including banking and accounting), (f). Housing, construction and infrastructure, (g). Medical equipment, supplies, pharmaceuticals, and health care management, (h). Product standards and quality control, (i). Telecommunications, and (j). Transportation. Applicant proposal must provide an explanation including description and extent of involvement in the sector(s). While Applicants involved in any industry sector may apply to the program, priority consideration is given to those operating in the above sectors.

Evaluation criteria 1-6 will be weighted equally. ITA does not guarantee that it will match Applicant with the profile provided to SABIT.

Selection Procedures

Each application will receive an independent, objective review by one or more three or four-member ITA review panels qualified to evaluate applications submitted under the program. Applications will be evaluated on a competitive, "rolling" basis as they are received in accordance with the selection evaluation set forth above. Awards will be made to those applications which successfully meet the selection criteria. If funds are not available for all those applications which successfully meet the criteria, awards will be made to the first applications received which successfully do so. ITA review panel(s) reserve(s) the right to reject any application; to limit the number of interns per applicant; to waive informalities and minor irregularities in applications received; and to consider other than competitive procedures to distribute assistance under this program and in accordance with the law. ITA review panel(s) reserve(s) the right to make awards based on diversity of U.S. geographic and organization size. Recipients may be eligible, pursuant to approval of an amendment of an active award, to host additional interns under the program. ITA reserves the right to evaluate applicants based on past performance. The Director of the SABIT Program is the final selecting official for each award.

Additional Information

Applicants must submit: (1) Evidence of adequate financial resources of Applicant organization to cover the costs involved in providing an

internship(s). As evidence of such resources, Applicant should submit financial statements audited by an outside organization or an annual report including such statements. If these are not available, a letter should be provided from the Applicant's bank or outside accountant attesting to the financial capability of the firm to undertake the scope of work involved in training an intern under the SABIT program. (2) Evidence of a satisfactory record of performance in grants, contracts and/or cooperative agreements with the Federal Government, if applicable. (Applicants who are or have been deficient in current or recent performance in their grants, contracts, and/or cooperative agreements with the Federal Government shall be presumed to be unable to meet this requirement). (3) A statement that the Applicant will provide medical insurance coverage for interns during their internships. Recipients will be required to submit proof of the interns' medical insurance coverage to the Federal Program Officer, before the interns' arrivals. The insurance coverage must include an accident and comprehensive medical insurance program as well as coverage for accidental death, emergency medical evacuation, and repatriation.

Other Requirements

All applicants are advised of the following:

1. No award of Federal funds shall be made to an Applicant 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 the Department of Commerce (DOC) are made.
2. A false statement on the application is 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.
3. Recipients and subrecipients are subject to all Federal laws and Federal and Departmental regulations, policies and procedures applicable to financial assistance awards.
4. Participating companies will be required to comply with all relevant U.S. tax and export regulations. Export controls may relate not only to licensing of products for export, but also to technical data transfer.
5. Applications under this program are not subject to Executive Order 12372, "Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs."
6. 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. Notwithstanding any verbal or written assurance that may have been received, there is no obligation on the part of DOC to cover pre-award costs.

7. Past performance: Unsatisfactory performance by an applicant under prior Federal awards may result in an application not being considered for funding.

8. No obligation for future funding: If an application is selected for funding, DOC 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 DOC.

9. Primary Applicant Certifications: All primary applicants must submit a completed Form CD-511, "Certifications Regarding Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; Drug-Free Workplace Requirements and Lobbying," and the following explanations are hereby provided:

(a) 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.

(b) Drug Free Workplace: Grantees (as defined at 15 CFR part 26, Section 605) are subject to 15 CFR part 26, Subpart F, "Government wide Requirements for Drug-Free Workplace (Grants)" and the related section of the certification form prescribed above applies.

(c) Anti-Lobbying: Funds provided under the SABIT program may not be used for lobbying activities. Persons (as defined at 15 CFR part 28, Section 105) are subject to the lobbying provisions of 31 U.S.C. 1352, "Limitation 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.

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

10. Lower Tier Certifications: 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 disclosure form, SF-LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities." Form CD-512 is intended for the use of recipients and should not be transmitted to DOC. SF-LLL submitted by any tier recipient or subrecipient should be submitted to DOC in accordance with the instructions contained in the award document.

11. Indirect Costs: Indirect costs are not allowed under the SABIT program.

12. Applicants are hereby notified that any equipment or products authorized to be purchased with funding provided under this program must be American-made to the maximum extent feasible.

13. The following statutes apply to this program: Chapter 11 of Part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, including section 498A (b), regarding ineligibility for assistance; provisions in annual Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, including the following provisions contained in Public Law 103-87: Use of American Resources (Section 559 of the Foreign Operation, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 1995, Pub. L. 103-87); Impact on Jobs in the United States (Section 545 of the Foreign Operation, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 1995, Pub. L. 103-87); Bumpers Amendment (Section 513(b) of the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 1994, Pub. L. 103-87); Lautenberg Amendment (Section 513(b) of the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 1994, Pub. L. 103-87); and Section 660(a) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended.

14. *Audit Requirements:* The DOC Office of Inspector General has authority under the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, to conduct an audit of any DOC award at any time.

15. *Payments.* As required by the Debt Collections Improvement Act of 1996, all Federal payments to award recipients pursuant to this announcement will be made by electronic funds transfer.

16. The collection of information is approved by the Office of Management and Budget, OMB Control Number 0625-0225. Public reporting for this collection of information is estimated to

be three hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. All responses to this collection of information are voluntary, and will be provided confidentially to the extent allowed under the Freedom of Information Act. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person is required to respond to nor shall a person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act unless that collection of information displays a current valid OMB Control Number. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Reports Clearance Officer, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce, Room 4001, 14th and Constitution Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20230.

Dated: January 20, 1998.

Liesel C. Duhon,

Director, SABIT Program.

[FR Doc. 98-1618 Filed 1-22-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 010898A]

Notice of Workshop

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that NMFS will sponsor a workshop for the members of its Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) Advisory Panels and of the National Research Council (NRC) Committee to Study IFQs. The workshop will be held in New Orleans, Louisiana and will be open for public observation.

DATES: The workshop will begin at 9:30 a.m. on January 24, 1998 and will end at 5 p.m. on January 25, 1998.

ADDRESSES: The workshop will be held at Le Pavillon Hotel, 833 Poydras Street, New Orleans, Louisiana; telephone: 800-535-9095.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Amy Gautam, NMFS, Office of Science and Technology; telephone: (301)713-2328.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In the reauthorization of the Magnuson-

Stevens Act (Act), Congress required the NRC to provide a report with recommendations on a national policy for implementing IFQs by October 1, 1998. The Act also required the formation of NMFS Advisory Panels to provide support to the NRC committee and to NMFS in their respective roles of preparing and evaluating the IFQ study. The workshop is intended to initiate a dialogue between IFQ Advisory Panel and NRC committee members related to key questions the NRC has developed. Issues discussed will include initial allocation criteria, restrictions on transferability of quota shares, enforcement and monitoring requirements, and long-term implications of implementing IFQs relative to other management regimes. Members of the public are invited to observe the proceedings, but will not be allowed to participate.

Dated: January 16, 1998.

Lamar Trott

Acting Director, Office of Science and Technology, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 98-1544 Filed 1-16-98; 4:56 pm]

BILLING CODE: 3510-22-F

COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

Applications of the Minneapolis Grain Exchange for Designation as a Contract Market in On-Peak Mid-Continent Area Power Pool (MAPP) Electricity Futures and Options and in Off-Peak MAPP Electricity Futures and Options

AGENCY: Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

ACTION: Notice of proposed contract Market Rule Change.

SUMMARY: The Minneapolis Grain Exchange (MGE or Exchange) has applied for designation as a contract market in on-peak mid-continent area power pool (MAPP) electricity futures and option contracts and off-peak MAPP electricity futures and option contracts. 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 February 23, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons should submit their views and comments to Jean A. Webb, Secretary, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, Three Lafayette Centre, 1155 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 MGE mid-continent area power pool (MAPP) electricity futures and options.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Please contact Joseph Storer of the Division of Economic Analysis, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, Three Lafayette Centre, 1155 21st Street NW, Washington, 20581, telephone (202) 418-5282. Facsimile number: (202) 418-5527. Electronic mail: jstorer@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, 1155 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 MGE 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 CFR part 145 (1987)), except to the extent they are entitled to confidential treatment as set forth in 17 CFR 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 CFR 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 MGE, 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 January 15, 1998.

John R. Mielke,

Acting Director.

[FR Doc. 98-1620 Filed 1-22-98; 8:45 am]

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