

Commerce has approved the withdrawal of thirty-three Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS) Publications.

On September 3, 1996, notice was published in the **Federal Register** (61 FR 46444-46445) proposing withdrawal of thirty-two Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS) Publications. Thirty-one of the thirty-two FIPS proposed for withdrawal are being withdrawn by this notice.

In addition, FIPS 147, Group 3 Facsimile Apparatus for Document Transmission, and 174, Federal Building Telecommunications Wiring Standard, are withdrawn by this notice. These standards were proposed for revision in the **Federal Register** (61 FR 10986-10992 dated March 18, 1996, and 61 FR 15783-15785 dated April 9, 1996), but are being withdrawn instead.

These thirty-three FIPS are being withdrawn because they are obsolete, or have not been updated to adopt current voluntary industry standards. Federal agencies and departments are directed by the National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act of 1995, Public Law 104-113, to use technical standards that are developed in voluntary consensus standards bodies.

Consequently, there no longer is a need for FIPS that duplicate voluntary industry standards.

The written comments submitted by interested parties and other material available to the Department relevant to these publications were reviewed by NIST. On the basis of this review, NIST recommended that the Secretary approve the withdrawal of the thirty-three FIPS Publications, and prepared a detailed justification document for the Secretary's review in support of that recommendation.

The detailed justification document which was presented to the Secretary is part of the public record and is available for inspection and copying in the Department's Central Reference and Records Inspection Facility, Room 6020, Herbert C. Hoover Building, 14th Street between Pennsylvania and Constitution Avenues, NW., Washington, DC 20230.

This notice provides only the FIPS publication number, title, and the technical specifications number for each of the thirty-three FIPS Publications being withdrawn:

- FIPS 1-2, Code for Information Interchange, Its Representations, Subsets, and Extension (ANSI X3.4-1986/R1992, X3.32-1990, X3.41-1990)
- FIPS 11-3, Guideline: American National Dictionary for Information Systems (ANSI X3.172-1990 & X3.172A-1992)
- FIPS 16-1, Bit Sequencing of Code for Information Interchange in Serial-By-Bit Data Transmission (ANSI X3.15-1976/R1983&R1990)
- FIPS 17-1, Character Structure and Character Parity Sense for Serial-By-Bit Data Communication in the Code for Information Interchange (ANSI X3.16-1976/(1983 & R1990)
- FIPS 19-2, Catalog of Widely Used Code Sets
- FIPS 22-1, Synchronous Signaling Rates Between Data Terminal and Data Communication Equipment (ANSI X3.1-1976)
- FIPS 34, Guide for the Use of International System of Units (SI) in Federal Information Processing Standards Publications
- FIPS 49, Guideline on Computer Performance Management: An Introduction
- FIPS 57, Guidelines for the Measurement of Interactive Computer Service Response Time and Turnaround Time
- FIPS 58-1, Representations of Local Time of the Day for Information Interchange (ANSI X3.43-1986)
- FIPS 59, Representations of Universal Time, Local Time Differentials, and United States Time Zone References for Information Interchange (ANSI X3.51-1975)
- FIPS 68-2, BASIC (ANSI X3.113-1987)
- FIPS 70-1, Representation of Geographic Point Locations for Information Interchange (ANSI X3.61-1986)
- FIPS 75, Guideline on Constructing Benchmarks for ADP System Acquisitions
- FIPS 76, Guideline for Planning and Using a Data Dictionary System
- FIPS 77, Guideline for Planning and Management of Database Applications
- FIPS 86, Additional Controls for Use with American National Standard Code for Information Interchange (ANSI X3.64-1979/R1990)
- FIPS 88, Guideline on Integrity Assurance and Control in Database Administration
- FIPS 94, Guideline on Electrical Power for ADP Installations
- FIPS 96, Guideline for Developing and Implementing a Charging System for Data Processing Services
- FIPS 99, Guideline: A Framework for the Evaluation and Comparison of Software Development Tools
- FIPS 104-1, ANS Codes for the Representation of Names of Countries, Dependencies, and Areas of Special Sovereignty for Information Interchange
- FIPS 109, Pascal (ANSI/IEEE 770X3.97-1983/R1990)

- FIPS 110, Guideline for Choosing a Data Management Approach
- FIPS 123, Specification for a Data Descriptive File for Information Interchange (DDF) (ANSI/ISO 8211-1985/R1992)
- FIPS 124, Guideline on Functional Specifications for Database Management Systems
- FIPS 126, Database Language NDL (ANSI X3.133-1986)
- FIPS 147, Group 3 Facsimile Apparatus for Document Transmission
- FIPS 152, Standard Generalized Markup Language (SGML) (ISO 8879-1986)
- FIPS 156, Information Resource Dictionary System (IRDS) (ANSI X3.138-1988&X3.138A-1991)
- FIPS 157, Guideline for Quality Control of Image Scanners (ANSI/AIIM MS44-1998)
- FIPS 158-1, The User Interface Component of the Applications Portability Profile (MIT X Version 11, Release 5)
- FIPS 174, Federal Building Telecommunications Wiring Standard (ANSI/EIA/TIA-568-1991)

EFFECTIVE DATE: This withdrawal is effective July 29, 1997.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Shirley Radack, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, MD 20899, telephone (301) 975-2833.

Authority: Federal Information Processing Standards Publications (FIPS PUBS) are issued by the National Institute of Standards and Technology after approval by the Secretary of Commerce pursuant to Section 5131 of the Information Technology Management Reform Act of 1996 and the Computer Security Act of 1987, Pub. L. 104-106.

Dated: July 22, 1997.

Elaine Bunten-Mines,

Director, Program Office.

[FR Doc. 97-19839 Filed 7-28-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-CN-M

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Patent and Trademark Office

Provisional Applications

ACTION: Proposed collection; comment request.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce (DoC), as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the

Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Pub. L. 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before September 29, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Linda Engelmeier, Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 5327, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to Robert J. Spar, Patent and Trademark Office (PTO), Washington, DC 20231, telephone number (703)305-9285.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The Uruguay Round Agreements Act, Public Law 103-465, mandates a 20-year patent term and provisional applications. The information in this collection is needed by the PTO to accurately identify and promptly and properly process provisional applications, as required by the Act.

II. Method of Collection

By mail, facsimile or hand carry when the applicant or agent files a patent application with the Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) or submits subsequent papers during the prosecution of the application to the PTO.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0651-0037.

Type of Review: Renewal without change.

Affected Public: Individuals or households, business or other non-profit, not-for-profit institutions and Federal Government.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 6,600.

Estimated Time Per Response: 8 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Respondent Burden Hours: 52,800 hours per year.

Estimated Total Annual Respondent Cost Burden: \$1,584,000/year—no capital costs will need to be expended by respondents.

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, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through 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 will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: July 23, 1997.

Linda Engelmeier,

Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of Management and Organization.

[FR Doc. 97-19888 Filed 7-28-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-16-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Patent and Trademark Office

Statutory Invention Registration

ACTION: Proposed collection; comment request.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce (DoC), as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Pub. L. 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before September 29, 1997.

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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

A patent applicant may request to have the application published as a statutory invention registration. This collection includes information needed by the PTO to review and approve/deny such requests.

II. Method of Collection

By mail, facsimile or hand carry when the applicant or agent files a patent application with the Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) or submits subsequent papers during the prosecution of the application to the PTO.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0651-0036.

Type of Review: Renewal without change.

Affected Public: Individuals or households, business or other non-profit, not-for-profit institutions and Federal Government.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 113.

Estimated Time Per Response: 0.4 hour.

Estimated Total Annual Respondent Burden Hours: 45 hours per year.

Estimated Total Annual Respondent Cost Burden: \$7,910 per year—no capital costs must be incurred by respondents to provide the information.

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, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through 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 will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: July 23, 1997.

Linda Engelmeier,

Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of Management and Organization.

[FR Doc. 97-19889 Filed 7-28-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-16-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Patent and Trademark Office

Secrecy/License to Export

ACTION: Proposed collection; comment request.