

Customers may incur postage costs when submitting a patent or trademark assignment request to the USPTO by mail. The USPTO expects that some assignment requests will be submitted by fax but that approximately 87,569 of the 134,971 paper assignment requests per year will be submitted by mail. The USPTO estimates that the average first-class postage cost for a mailed Patent or Trademark Recordation Form Cover Sheet submission is 80 cents, resulting in a total postage cost for this collection of \$70,055 per year.

The total non-hour respondent cost burden for this collection in the form of filing fees, recordkeeping costs, and postage costs is estimated to be \$27,165,603 per year.

#### 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.

Dated: January 22, 2008.

**Susan K. Fawcett,**

*Records Officer, USPTO, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Customer Information Services Group, Public Information Services Division.*

[FR Doc. E8-1389 Filed 1-25-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-16-P

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Patent and Trademark Office

#### Privacy Act of 1974; System of Records

**AGENCY:** United States Patent and Trademark Office, Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of proposed new Privacy Act system of records.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the requirements of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) gives

notice of a proposed new system of records entitled "COMMERCE/PAT-TM-21 National Medal of Technology and Innovation Nominations." We invite the public to comment on the system announced in this publication.

**DATES:** Written comments must be received no later than February 27, 2008. The proposed system of records will be effective on February 27, 2008, unless the USPTO receives comments that would result in a contrary determination.

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

E-mail: [Susan.Fawcett@uspto.gov](mailto:Susan.Fawcett@uspto.gov).

Fax: (571) 273-0112, marked to the attention of Susan Fawcett.

Mail: Susan K. Fawcett, Records Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Customer Information Services Group, Public Information Services Division, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

All comments received will be available for public inspection at the Public Search Facilities, Madison East—1st Floor, 600 Dulany Street, Alexandria, VA 22314.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Susan K. Fawcett, Records Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Customer Information Services Group, Public Information Services Division, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, (571) 272-5429.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The National Medal of Technology is the highest honor awarded by the President of the United States to America's leading innovators. Established by an act of Congress in 1980, the Medal of Technology was first awarded in 1985. The Medal is given annually to individuals, teams, and/or companies/divisions for their outstanding contributions to the Nation's economic, environmental and social well-being through the development and commercialization of technology products, processes and concepts; technological innovation; and development of the Nation's technological workforce. The purpose of the National Medal of Technology is to recognize those who have made lasting contributions to America's competitiveness, standard of living, and quality of life through technological innovation, and to recognize those who have made substantial contributions to strengthening the Nation's technological workforce. By highlighting the national importance of technological innovation, the Medal also seeks to inspire future

generations of Americans to prepare for and pursue technical careers to keep America at the forefront of global technology and economic leadership.

The America Competes Act of 2007 abolished the Technology Administration of the Department of Commerce as of August 9, 2007 (sec. 3002). The administration and nomination processing for the National Medal of Technology has been officially transferred by the Secretary of Commerce to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO). In addition, the title of the award will be updated to the "National Medal of Technology and Innovation." The USPTO is therefore giving notice of a new system of records that is subject to the Privacy Act of 1974. The proposed system of records will maintain information on individuals who are nominated for the National Medal of Technology and Innovation.

The proposed new system of records, "COMMERCE/PAT-TM-21 National Medal of Technology and Innovation Nominations," is published in its entirety below.

#### COMMERCE/PAT-TM-21

**SYSTEM NAME:**

National Medal of Technology and Innovation Nominations.

**SECURITY CLASSIFICATION:**

Unclassified.

**SYSTEM LOCATION:**

Office of the Under Secretary and Director, United States Patent and Trademark Office, 600 Dulany Street, Alexandria, VA 22314.

**CATEGORIES OF INDIVIDUALS COVERED BY THE SYSTEM:**

Nominees for the National Medal of Technology and Innovation.

**CATEGORIES OF RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM:**

Nomination Form, including name, postal address, telephone number, e-mail address, citizenship, employment history, and other information pertaining to the applicant's activities. Statements containing various kind of information with respect to the contributions of the individual(s) and/or group(s).

**AUTHORITY FOR MAINTENANCE OF THE SYSTEM:**

15 U.S.C. 3711.

**PURPOSE(S):**

The information in this system of records is used by the Nomination Evaluation Committee to determine the eligibility and merit of nominees during the annual selection of the recipients of

the National Medal of Technology and Innovation.

**ROUTINE USES OF RECORDS MAINTAINED IN THE SYSTEM, INCLUDING CATEGORIES OF USERS AND THE PURPOSES OF SUCH USES:**

See Prefatory Statement of General Routine Uses Nos. 1–5, 9–10, and 12–13, as found at 46 FR 63501–63502 (December 31, 1981). The USPTO may use the information contained in this system of records in support of the work of the nomination committee. The USPTO, the Department of Commerce, the National Medal of Technology Nomination Evaluation Committee, and White House staff may use the information contained in this system of records in support of the nomination and award process. The Committee will discuss the achievements and biographical information submitted (contact information will not be disclosed) at meetings that are open to the public in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

**DISCLOSURE TO CONSUMER REPORTING AGENCIES:**

Not applicable.

**POLICIES AND PRACTICES FOR STORING, RETRIEVING, ACCESSING, RETAINING, AND DISPOSING OF RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM:**

**STORAGE:**

Paper records in file folders and electronic media.

**RETRIEVABILITY:**

By individual's name.

**SAFEGUARDS:**

Maintained in areas accessible only to authorized personnel in a building protected by security guards during nonbusiness hours. Systems are password protected.

**RETENTION AND DISPOSAL:**

Records retention and disposal is in accordance with the series record schedules.

**SYSTEM MANAGER(S) AND ADDRESS:**

Under Secretary and Director, United States Patent and Trademark Office, 600 Dulany Street, Alexandria, VA 22314.

**NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE:**

Information may be obtained from the Manager, National Medal of Technology and Innovation, Office of the Under Secretary and Director, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313–1450. Requesters should provide their names in accordance with the inquiry provisions appearing in 37 CFR part 102 subpart B.

**RECORD ACCESS PROCEDURES:**

Requests from individuals should be addressed to the same address as stated in the notification section above.

**CONTESTING RECORD PROCEDURES:**

The rules for access, contesting contents, and appealing initial determinations by the individual concerned appear in 37 CFR part 102 subpart B. Requests from individuals should be addressed to the same address as stated in the notification section above.

**RECORD SOURCE CATEGORIES:**

Subject individuals and those authorized by the individual to furnish information, as well as nominating entities and self-nominees.

**EXEMPTIONS CLAIMED FOR THE SYSTEM:**

None.

Dated: January 22, 2008.

**Susan K. Fawcett,**

*Records Officer, USPTO, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Customer Information Services Group, Public Information Services Division.*

[FR Doc. E8–1386 Filed 1–25–08; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510–16–P**

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**

**Office of the Secretary of Defense**

**Establishment of Department of Defense Federal Advisory Committees**

**AGENCY:** DoD.

**ACTION:** Establishment of Federal Advisory Committee.

**SUMMARY:** Under the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972, (5 U.S.C. Appendix, as amended), the Sunshine in the Government Act of 1976 (5 U.S.C. 552b, as amended), and 41 CFR 102–3.65, the Department of Defense gives notice that it is establishing the U.S. Nuclear Command and Control System Comprehensive Review Committee (hereafter referred to as the Committee).

The Committee is a discretionary federal advisory committee established under the authority of 41 CFR 102–3.50(d) to provide the Secretary of Defense, in his capacity as the Nuclear Command and Control System Executive Agent, a comprehensive review of the U.S. Nuclear Command and Control System (NCCS). The Committee, considering the impact advanced technology, current and emerging threats, and evolving vulnerabilities have on the Nuclear Command and Control System, shall:

A. Examine the full range of NCCS policies, procedures, responsibilities, functions, capabilities, management and oversight necessary to:

1. Meet national and department/agency policy and guidance; and
2. Maintain the highest standards required for planning, directing, and controlling nuclear weapons, weapons systems, and associated operations.

B. Recommend changes to NCCS policies, responsibilities, functions, capabilities, management structures, and oversight mechanisms, as well as identifying other enhancements to NCCS elements (facilities, equipment, personnel, communications and procedures).

The Committee's review shall not address nuclear force size and structure, deterrence strategy, and arms control/threat reduction analyses.

The Committee shall be composed of a chairperson and no more than five distinguished members, whose diverse expertise and background enable them to provide recommendations for improving the National Command and Control System to the NCCS Executive Agent.

The Committee members shall be appointed by the Secretary of Defense for the duration of the Committee, and their appointments will be renewed on an annual basis. Those members, who are not full-time Federal officers or employees, shall serve as Special Government Employees under the authority of 5 U.S.C. 3109. Committee members, with the exception of travel and per diem for official travel, shall serve without compensation. The Secretary of Defense shall select the Committee's Chairperson.

The Committee shall be authorized to establish subcommittees, as necessary and consistent with its mission, and these subcommittees or working groups shall operate under the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972, the Sunshine in the Government Act of 1976, and other appropriate federal regulations.

Such subcommittees or workgroups shall not work independently of the chartered Committee, and shall report all their recommendations and advice to the Committee for full deliberation and discussion. Subcommittees or workgroups have no authority to make decisions on behalf of the chartered Committee nor can they report directly to the Department of Defense or any federal officers or employees who are not Committee Members.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Committee shall meet at the call of the Committee's Designated Federal Officer,