

DATES: Please submit nominations on or before August 27, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Please submit nominations to Harry Hertz, Director, National Quality Program, NIST, 100 Bureau Drive, Mail Stop 1020, Gaithersburg, MD 20899-1020. Nominations may also be submitted via FAX to 301-948-3716. Additional information regarding the Committee, including its charter, current membership list, and executive summary may be found on its electronic home page at: <http://www.quality.nist.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Harry Hertz, Director, National Quality Program and Designated Federal Official, NIST, 100 Bureau Drive, Mail Stop 1020, Gaithersburg, MD 20899-1020; telephone 301-975-2361; FAX-301-948-3716; or via e-mail at harry.hertz@nist.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Judges Panel Information

The Judges Panel was established in accordance with 15 U.S.C. 3711a(d)(1), the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. app. 2), The Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Improvement Act of 1987 (Pub. L. 101-107).

Objectives and Duties

1. The Judges Panel will ensure the integrity of the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award selection process by reviewing the results of examiners' scoring of written applications, and then voting on which applicants merit site visits by examiners to verify the accuracy of quality improvements claimed by applicants.

2. The Judges Panel will ensure that individuals on site visit teams for the Award finalists have no conflict of interest with respect to the finalists. The Panel will also review recommendations from site visits, and recommend Award recipients.

3. The Judges Panel will function solely as an advisory body, and will comply with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

4. The Panel will report to the Director of NIST.

Membership

1. The Judges Panel is composed of nine members selected on a clear, standardized basis, in accordance with applicable Department of Commerce guidance. There will be a balanced representation from U.S. service and manufacturing industries, education, and health care and will include members familiar with quality improvement in their area of business. No employee of the Federal Government

shall serve as a member of the Judges Panel.

2. The Judges Panel will be appointed by the Secretary of Commerce and will serve at the discretion of the Secretary. The term of office of each Panel member shall be three years. All terms will commence on January 1 and end on December 31 of the appropriate year.

Miscellaneous

1. Members of the Judges Panel shall serve without compensation, but may, upon request, be reimbursed travel expenses, including per diem, as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 5701 et seq.

2. The Judges Panel will meet three times per year. Additional meetings may be called as deemed necessary by the NIST Director or by the Chairperson. Meetings are one to three days in duration.

3. Committee meetings are closed to the public pursuant to Section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. app. 2, as amended by Section 5(c) of the Government in the Sunshine Act, Pub. L. 94-409, and in accordance with Section 552b(c)(4) of title 5, United States Code. Since the members of the Judges Panel examine records and discuss Award applicant data, the meeting is likely to disclose trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person may be privileged or confidential.

II. Nomination Information

1. Nominations are sought from all U.S. service and manufacturing industries as described above.

2. Nominees should have established records of distinguished service and shall be familiar with the quality improvement operations of manufacturing companies, service companies, small businesses, education and health care organizations. The category (field of eminence) for which the candidate is qualified should be specified in the nomination letter. Nominations for a particular category should come from organizations or individuals within that category. A summary of the candidate's qualifications should be included with the nomination, including (where applicable) current or former service on federal advisory boards and federal employment. In addition, each nomination letter should state that the person agrees to the nomination, acknowledge the responsibilities of serving on the Judges Panel, and will actively participate in good faith in the tasks of the Judges Panel. Besides participation at meetings, it is desired that members be able to devote the equivalent of seventeen days between

meetings to either developing or researching topics of potential interest, reading Baldrige applications, and so forth, in furtherance of their Committee duties.

3. The Department of Commerce is committed to equal opportunity in the workplace and seeks a broad-based and diverse Judges Panel membership.

Dated: August 4, 1999.

Karen H. Brown,
Deputy Director.

[FR Doc. 99-20570 Filed 8-9-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-13-M

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Institute of Standards and Technology

Government Owned Inventions Available for Licensing

AGENCY: National Institute of Standards and Technology, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of Government Owned Inventions Available for Licensing.

SUMMARY: The inventions listed below are owned in whole or in part by the U.S. Government, as represented by the Department of Commerce. The Department of Commerce's ownership interest in the inventions is available for licensing in accordance with 35 U.S.C. 207 and 37 CFR part 404 to achieve expeditious commercialization of results of Federally funded research and development.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Technical and licensing information on these inventions may be obtained by writing to: National Institute of Standards and Technology, Office of Technology Partnerships, Building 820, Room 213, Gaithersburg, MD 20899; Fax 301-869-2751. Any request for information should include the NIST Docket No. and Title for the relevant invention as indicated below.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: NIST may enter into a Cooperative Research and Development Agreement ("CRADA") with the licensee to perform further research on the inventions for purposes of commercialization. The inventions available for licensing are:

NIST Docket Number: 97-047US.

Title: Implementation of Role/Group Permission Association Using Object Access Type.

Abstract: Security administration in a computer system is simplified by defining a new and independent entity called an Object Access Type (OAT). OATs comprise access control specifications associating roles with

permissions, and associating the roles with a set of objects, such as resources or files. Different roles may have differing permissions to objects associated with an OAT, and objects may be assigned to plural OATs. A mechanism is also presented whereby system administrators are provided with the capability to display and manipulate access designations by operating only on the independent OATs.

NIST Docket Number: 98-010US.

Title: Planar Geometry

Superconducting Coil Having Internal Damping Resistors.

Abstract: The invention is jointly owned by the U.S. Government, as represented by the Secretary of Commerce, and the University of Colorado. The operation of a planar geometry superconducting coil used in conjunction with a ground plane is improved by intracoil damping. This damping reduces coil resonances. The improvement consists of an intracoil shunt, which damps the resonances of the coil by connecting each turn, or loop, of the multiloop/multiloop coil with resistors. One example of a planar geometry superconducting coil which is effectively damped according to the present invention is the input coil to a superconducting quantum interference device (SQUID). The intracoil shunt may be added to the SQUID at the same time in the SQUID fabrication as the junction shunts.

NIST Docket Number: 98-072US.

Title: Method For The Chemical Precipitation Of Metallic Silver Powder Via A Two Solution Technique.

Abstract: A method for the chemical precipitation of metallic silver powder employs a two solution technique in which a solution of a tin salt and a solution of a silver salt are mixed in the presence of an inorganic or organic acid, alumina, an anionic surfactant, and a colloid to form a precipitation solution at a temperature and pH suitable to effect the chemical precipitation of silver. Almost 80% by weight of the precipitated powder agglomerate is less than 25 microns in diameter, and the individual powder particles which compose the agglomerate range in size from 0.2 to 2.0 microns. In addition to the favorable size distribution, silver particles precipitated in the presence of a gelatin colloid can be used with a minimal amount of sieving so that little work hardening is imparted to the particles. The powder can be annealed at a temperature of up to 750 degrees C for two hours in air with minimal sintering, and the acid-assisted hand consolidated of powder produced according to the present technique is

capable of producing silver compacts which are nearly 80% dense. Advantageously, a hand consolidated silver compact which comprises the powder of the present invention equals or exceeds the transverse rupture strength, shear strength, creep, toughness, corrosion resistance, microleakage, and wear properties of conventional silver amalgam.

Karen H. Brown,

Deputy Director.

[FR Doc. 99-20571 Filed 8-9-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-13-M

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Institute of Standards and Technology

Announcement of Public Meeting of the Industry Usability Reporting Project (IUSR)

AGENCY: National Institute of Standards and Technology, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Third Workshop of the Industry Usability Reporting Project will be held as a forum for introducing a newly developed format for reporting usability testing results and for explaining the requirements for participating in an eighteen-month pilot testing of this format. Industry partners are invited to join this effort to standardize the method by which software usability reports are generated. The goal of the on-going effort is to develop a Common Usability Format (CIF), which, if used for exchanging information between software vendors and software consumer organizations, will have positive impacts on the Total Cost of Ownership of software. More information about the IUSR Project can be obtained at: <http://www.nist.gov/itl/div894/vvrg/iusr>.

Pursuant to 15 U.S.C. 272 et seq., the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) cooperates with industry to accelerate the development of technologies that allow intuitive, efficient access, manipulation and exchange of complex information by facilitating the creation of measurement methods and standards.

DATES: The meeting will be held September 14(8:30 am—5 pm) and September 15 (8:30 am—12:30 pm), 1999.

ADDRESS: The meeting will take place at the Oracle Conference Center, 350 Oracle Parkway, Redwood Shores, CA 94065.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sharon Laskowski, NIST, 100 Bureau

Drive, Stop 8940, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20899-8940. Telephone (301) 975-4535 or E-mail sharon.laskowski@nist.gov.

Dated: August 4, 1999.

Karen H. Brown,

Deputy Director.

[FR Doc. 99-20572 Filed 8-9-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-13-M

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Institute of Standards and Technology

Announcement of a Partially Closed Meeting of the Manufacturing Extension Partnership National Advisory Board

AGENCY: National Institute of Standards and Technology, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of partially closed meeting.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. app. 2, notice is hereby given that the National Institute of Standards and Technology's (NIST's) Manufacturing Extension Partnership National Advisory Board (MEPNAB) will meet to hold a meeting on Thursday, September 9, 1999. The MEPNAB is composed of nine members appointed by the Director of NIST who were selected for their expertise in the area of industrial extension and their work on behalf of smaller manufacturers. The Board was set up, under the direction of the Director of NIST, to fill a need for outside input on MEP. MEP is a unique program consisting of centers in all 50 states and Puerto Rico. The centers have been created by a state, federal, and local partnership. The Board works closely with MEP to provide input and advice on MEP's programs, plans, and policies. The purpose of this meeting is to delve into areas of operation determined by the Board. The agenda includes an MEP overview status, leveraging of the ATP results for smaller manufacturers, and ideas for moving towards performance-based operations. The portion of the meeting, which involves personnel and propriety budget information, will be closed to the public. All other portions of the meeting will be open to the public.

DATE AND ADDRESS: The meeting will convene on September 9, 1999, at 8 a.m. and will adjourn at 3:30 p.m. and will be held at the National Institute of Standards and Technology, Building 101, 10th floor conference room, Gaithersburg, Maryland. The closed