

which includes all current general wage determinations for the States covered by each volume. Throughout the remainder of the year, regular weekly updates are distributed to subscribers.

Signed at Washington, D.C. This 9th Day of July, 1998.

Carl J. Poleskey,

Chief, Branch of Construction Wage Determinations.

[FR Doc. 98-18828 Filed 7-16-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-27-M

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Bureau of Labor Statistics

Proposed Information Collection Request Submitted for Public Comment and Recommendations; Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries

AGENCY: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Labor, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, conducts a preclearance consultation program to provide the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing collections of information in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. This program helps to ensure that requested data can be provided in the desired format, reporting burden is minimized, reporting forms are clearly understood, and the impact of collection requirements on respondents can be properly assessed. Currently, the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) is soliciting comments concerning the proposed revision of the "Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries." A copy of the proposed information collection request (ICR) can be obtained by contacting the individual listed below in the addresses section of this notice.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted to the office listed in the addresses section below on or before September 15, 1998.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics is particularly interested in comments which:

- Evaluate 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;
- Evaluate 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;

- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submissions of responses.

ADDRESSES: Send comments to Karin G. Kurz, BLS Clearance Officer, Division of Management Systems, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Room 3255, 2 Massachusetts Avenue NE., Washington, D.C. 20212. For further information contact Ms. Kurz on 202-605-7628 (this is not a toll free number).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) was delegated responsibility by the Secretary of Labor for implementing Section 24(a) of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970. This section states the "the Secretary shall compile accurate statistics on work injuries and illnesses which shall include all disabling, serious, or significant injuries and illnesses * * *"

Prior to the implementation of the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI), BLS generated estimates of occupational fatalities for private sector employers from a sample survey of about 280,000 establishments. Studies showed that occupational fatalities were underreported in those estimates as well as those compiled by regulatory, vital statistics, and workers' compensation systems. Estimates varied widely between 3,000 and 10,00 annually. In addition, information needed to develop prevention strategies was often missing from these earlier programs.

In the late 1980s, the National Academy of Sciences study, *Counting Injuries and Illnesses in the Workplace*, and the report, *Keystone National Policy Dialogue on Work-Related Illness and Injury Recordkeeping*, emphasized the need for BLS to compile a complete roster of work-related fatalities because of concern over the accuracy of using a sample survey to estimate the incidence of occupational fatalities. These studies also recommended the use of all available data sources to compile detailed information for fatality prevention efforts.

BLS tested the feasibility of collecting fatality data in this manner in 1989 and 1990. The resulting CFOI was implemented in 32 States in 1991. National data covering all 50 States and

the District of Columbia was compiled and published for 1992-1996, approximately eight months after each calendar year.

The CFOI compiles comprehensive, accurate, and timely information on work-injury fatalities needed to develop effective prevention strategies. The system collects information concerning the incident, demographic information on the deceased, and characteristics of the employer.

Data are used to:

- develop employee safety training programs;
- develop and assess the effectiveness of safety standards;
- conduct research for developing prevention strategies; and
- compare fatalities between States.

In addition, States use the data to publish State reports, to identify State-specific hazards, to allocate resources for promoting safety in the workplace, and to evaluate the quality of work life in the State.

II. Current Actions

In 1996, 6,112 workers lost their lives as a result of injuries received on the job. This official systematic, verifiable count mutes controversy over the various counts from different sources. The CFOI count has been adopted by the National Safety Council and other organizations as the sole source of a comprehensive count of fatal work injuries for the U.S. If this information were not collected, the confusion over the number and patterns in fatal occupational injuries would continue, thus hampering prevention efforts. By providing timely occupational fatality data, the CFOI program provides safety and health managers the information necessary to respond to emerging workplace hazards.

In 1997, BLS Washington staff responded to over 3,000 requests for CFOI data from various organizations. (This figure excludes requests received by the States for State-specific data.) In addition, BLS Washington staff responded to numerous requests from safety organizations for staff members to participate in safety conferences and seminars. The CFOI research file, made available to safety and health groups, is being used by 50 organizations to conduct studies on specific topics, such as protective equipment use, forklift injuries, tractor-trailer tipovers, powerline electrocutions, homicides, construction industry falls, highway construction, and logging and forestry fatalities. (A current list of research articles and reports that include CFOI data can be found in BLS Report 922,

dated June 1998, Appendix H. Copies of this report are available upon request.)

Type of Review: Revision.

Agency: Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Title: Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries.

OMB Number: 1220-0133.

Frequency: On Occasion.

Affected Public: Individuals or households, Business or other for-profit, Not-for-profit-institutions, Farms, Federal Government, State, Local or Tribal Government.

Number of Respondents: 2,665.

Estimated Time Per Response: 11 Minutes.

Total Burden Hours: 5,000 Hours.

Total Burden Cost (capital/startup): \$0.

Total Burden Cost (operating/maintenance): \$0.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval of the ICR; they also will become a matter of public record.

Signed at Washington, DC, this 13th day of July, 1998.

Karen A. Krein,

Acting Chief, Division of Management Systems, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

[FR Doc. 98-19112 Filed 7-16-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-24-M

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

[Notice 98-095]

Notice of Prospective Patent License

AGENCY: National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

ACTION: Notice of Prospective Patent License.

SUMMARY: NASA hereby gives notice that Lantis Laser, Inc., has applied for a partially exclusive license to practice the invention disclosed in NASA Case No. LAR-15564-1-SB, entitled, "Method of Controlling Laser Wavelength(s)," for which a U.S. Patent Application was filed and assigned to the United States of America as represented by the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. Written objections to the prospective grant of a license should be sent to NASA Langley Research Center.

DATES: Responses to this notice must be received by September 15, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Robin W. Edwards, Patent Attorney, NASA Langley Research Center, Mail Stop 212, Hampton, VA 23681-0001. Telephone (757) 864-3230; fax (757) 864-9190.

Dated: July 13, 1998.

Edward A. Frankle,

General Counsel.

[FR Doc. 98-19080 Filed 7-16-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7501-01-P

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

National Science Foundation Proposal/Award Information—Grant Proposal Guide; Submission for OMB Review: Comment Request

In compliance with the requirement of Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 for opportunity for public comment on proposed data collection projects, the National Science Foundation (NSF) will publish periodic summaries of proposed projects. Such a notice was published at **Federal Register**, 6393, dated May 14, 1998. No comments were received. This material is being submitted for OMB review. Send any written comments to Desk Officer, OMB, 3145-0058, OIRA, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503. Written comments should be received by August 14, 1998.

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 collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Proposed project. "National Science Foundation Proposal/Award Information—Grant Proposal Guide." The mission of the NSF are to: strengthen its ability to support research in all areas of science and engineering; and promote innovative science and engineering education programs that can better prepare the Nation to meet the challenges of the future. The foundation is also committed to ensuring the Nation's supply of scientists, engineers, and science educators. In its role as leading Federal

supporter of science and engineering, NSF also has an important role in national science policy planning.

The information collected is used to help the Foundation fulfill this responsibility by initiating and supporting merit-selected research and education projects in all the scientific an engineering disciplines. NSF receives more than 30,000 proposals annually for new or renewal support for research, and math/science/engineering education projects, and makes approximately 10,000 new awards. This support is made primarily through grants contracts, and other agreements awarded to approximately 2,800 colleges, universities, academic consortia, nonprofit institutions, and small businesses. The awards are based mainly on evaluations of proposal merit submitted to the Foundation (see OMB Clearance No. 3145-0060).

The Foundation has a continuing commitment to monitor the operations of its review and award processes to identify and address excessive reporting burdens. The Foundation is also committed to monitor and identify any real or apparent inequities based on gender, race, ethnicity, or handicap of the proposed principal investigator(s)/project director(s) or co-principal investigator(s)/co-project director(s). The collection of this information is a part of the regular submission of proposals to the Foundation.

Dated: July 14, 1998.

Mary Lou Higgs,

Acting NSF Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 98-19072 Filed 7-16-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-M

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Special Emphasis Panel in Design, Manufacture & Industrial Innovation; Notice of Meeting

This notice is being published in accord with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, as amended). During the period of August 12-September 30, 1998, the Special Emphasis Panel in Design, Manufacture & Industrial Innovation (1194) will be holding panel meetings to review and evaluate Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) proposals. All meetings will be held at the National Science Foundation. The dates, topics and areas of proposals are as follows:

Date	Topic and area
August 6-7, 1998	Topic 23, Mechanics and Materials.