

acquisition of equipment implementing the algorithms specified in the standard. These adjustments do not change the technical cryptographic signature algorithm specifications.

Before recommending these minor changes to FIPS 186-2 to the Secretary of Commerce for approval, NIST invites review and comments by the public, private sector, and government organizations.

DATES: Comments on these proposed changes to FIPS 186-2, Digital Signature Standard, must be received on or before August 10, 2001.

SPECIFICATIONS: FIPS 186-2, Digital Signature Standard, is available through the NIST Computer Security Resource Center web page: <http://csrc.nist.gov/publications/fips/index.html>. Text for the proposed changes is available at <http://csrc.nist.gov/publications/drafts.html>.

ADDRESSES: Comments on the proposed changes to FIPS 186-2 may be sent either electronically to FIPS 186@nist.gov or by regular mail to: Chief, Computer Security Division, Information Technology Laboratory, ATTN: Comments on Changes to FIPS 186-2 Digital Signature Standard, 100 Bureau Drive, Stop 8930, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, MD 20899-8930.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Elaine Barker, (301) 975-2911, National Institute of Standards and Technology, 100 Bureau Drive, STOP 8930, Gaithersburg, MD 20899-8930.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In January 2000, the Secretary of Commerce approved FIPS 186-2, Digital Signature Standard (DSS). The standard adopts three techniques for the generation and verification of digital signatures. These are the Digital Signature Algorithm (DSA) and two techniques specified in industry standards (ANSI X9.31-1998, Digital Signatures Using Reversible Public Key Cryptography for the Financial Services Industry and ANSI 9.62, 1998 Public Key Cryptography for the Financial Services Industry: Elliptical Curve Digital Signature Algorithm). When the standard was approved, it provided for a transition period from July 2000 to July 2001 to enable federal agencies to continue to use their existing digital signature systems and to acquire additional equipment that might be needed to interoperate with these legacy digital signature systems. Several agencies have notified NIST that commercial equipment implementing another data formatting approach (as input to a signature algorithm) are more readily

available and that the original implementation schedule should be extended.

Therefore, NIST is proposing that the Implementation Schedule of FIPS 186-2 be modified to extend the transition period for the acquisition of equipment implementing FIPS 186-2 from July 2001 to December 2002. This will enable agencies to continue to acquire commercial products based on a private sector data formatting approach PKCS #1, which does not interoperate with the data formatting approach specified in FIPS 186-2. NIST believes that using the PKCS #1 is robust and sufficiently strong for use by federal agencies. Also NIST proposes that the Applications section of FIPS 186-2 be modified to clarify that implementations of PKCS #1 (version 1.5 or higher) may be used during the transition period. These proposed adjustments do not change the technical cryptographic digital signature specifications (other than data formatting) for the standard.

Authority: Under Section 5131 of the Information Technology Management Reform Act of 1996 and the Computer Security Act of 1987 (Public Law 100-235), the Secretary of Commerce is authorized to approve standards and guidelines for the cost effective security and privacy of sensitive information processed by federal computer systems.

Executive Order 12866: This notice has been determined not to be significant for purposes of E.O. 12866.

Dated: July 5, 2001.

Karen H. Brown,

Acting Director, NIST.

[FR Doc. 01-17297 Filed 7-10-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-CN-M

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Institute of Standards and Technology

Notice of Government Owned Inventions Available for Licensing

AGENCY: National Institute of Standards and Technology, Commerce.

SUMMARY: The inventions listed below are owned in whole or in part by the U.S. Government, as represented by the Department of Commerce, and are 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: 00-018US.

Title: Inorganic Non-metallic, Wire Bondable Top Surface Coating For Use In wire Bonding To Copper Metallization On Semiconductor Chips.

Abstract: The invention addresses the problem of electrically interconnecting copper metallized semiconductor ships to their packages with wire bonding. A thin, inorganic film is deposited such that it will break-up during the wire bonding process and be pushed aside. Selected film materials are compatible with and normally used for other purposes in wafer fabrication processing.

NIST Docket Number: 97-017C.

Title: Domain Engineered Ferroelectric Optical Radiation.

Abstract: The invention comprises a pyroelectric detector with significantly reduced microphonic noise sensitivity comprising a pyroelectric detector element constructed from a z-cut LiNbO3 electret. Selective domain reversal is accomplished in the electret by applying an electric field. Electrodes are attached to either surface of the electret spanning the domain reversed region and a portion of the original domain region to create areas of equal and opposite sensitivity. The detector is mounted in an electrically grounded container or housing. The detector may also be constructed having multiple detector regions to accommodate resonant frequencies of the electret or to function as a position sensor.

NIST Docket Number: 9-026US-Transfer.

Title: Modular Suspended Manipulator.

Abstract: A Cable-driven manipulator can precisely manipulate tools and loads using position, velocity and force control modes. The manipulator includes a plurality of cables (2 or more) that are independently controlled by modular, winch drive mechanisms and is coordinated to achieve intuitive manipulator movement in all six degrees of freedom. The manipulator, consisting of modular sub-assemblies and components (*i.e.*, winch, amplifier, servo interface and sensory feedback), can be rapidly reconfigured to adjust to new applications. The winches can be controlled manually by a multi-axis joystick, or can be automatically controlled by computer. The invention has applications in supporting and manipulating tools and equipment for welding, painting and stripping involving large structures.

NIST Docket Number: 99-035US.

Title: Normal Metal Boundary Conditions For Multi-layer TES Detectors.

Abstract: Described herein are multiplayer transition-edge sensor (TES) having improved performance, a method for preparing them and methods of using them. Specifically, the improvement lies in providing normal metal strips along the edges of the superconducting and normal metal layers parallel to the current flow in the TES during operation. These strips (hereinafter referred to as "banks") provide for both improved detector performance and improved detector robustness against corrosion. This improvement is an important advance particularly for the TES-based microcalorimeter detector. The improved TESs also have many other applications based on the very precise thermometer function achieved by the TES.

Dated: July 5, 2001.

Karen H. Brown

Acting Director.

[FR Doc. 01-17295 Filed 7-10-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-13-M

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Institute of Standards and Technology

[Notice 2]

National Fire Codes: Request for Proposals for Revision of Codes and Standards

AGENCY: National Institute of Standards and Technology, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) proposes to revise some of its fire safety codes and standards and requests proposals from the public to amend existing or begin the process of developing new NFPA fire safety codes and standards. The purpose of this request is to increase public participation in the system used by NFPA to develop its codes and standards. The publication of this notice by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) on behalf of NFPA is being undertaken as a public service; NIST does not necessarily endorse, approve, or recommend any of the standards referenced in the notice.

DATES: Interested persons may submit proposals on or before the dates listed with the standards.

ADDRESSES: Casey C. Grant, Secretary, Standards Council, NFPA, 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, Massachusetts 02269-9101.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Casey C. Grant, Secretary, Standards Council, at above address, and by phone (617) 770-3000.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) develops building, fire, and electrical safety codes and standards. Federal agencies frequently use these codes and standards as the basis for developing Federal regulations

concerning fire safety. Often, the Office of the Federal Register approves the incorporation by reference of these standards under 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR Part 51.

Request for Proposals

Interested persons may submit proposals, supported by written data, views, or arguments to Casey C. Grant, Secretary, Standards Council, NFPA, 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, Massachusetts 02269-9101. Proposals should be submitted on forms available from the NFPA Codes and Standards Administration Office.

Each person must include his or her name and address, identify the document and give reasons for the proposal. Proposals received before 5:00 PM local time on the closing date indicated would be acted on by the Committee. The NFPA will consider any proposal that it receives on or before the date listed with the code or standards.

At a later date, each NFPA Technical Committee will issue a report, which will include a copy of written proposals that have been received, and an account of the disposition of each proposal by the NFPA Committee as the Report on Proposals. Each person who has submitted a written proposal will receive a copy of the report.

Dated: July 5, 2001.

Karen Brown,
Acting Director.

NFPA No.	Title	Proposal closing date
NFPA 14-2000	Standard for the Installation of Standpipe, Private Hydrants, and Hose Systems	7/6/2001
NFPA 16-1999	Standard for the Installation of Foam-Water Sprinkler and Foam-Water Spray Systems.	7/6/2001
NFPA 20-1999	Standard for the Installation of Stationary Pumps for Fire Protection	12/28/2001
NFPA 22-1998	Standard for Water Tanks for Private Fire Protection	7/6/2001
NFPA 30A-2000	Code for Motor Fuel Dispensing Facilities and Repair Garages	12/28/2001
NFPA 50A-1999	Standard for Gaseous Hydrogen Systems at Consumer Sites	6/28/2002
NFPA 50B-1999	Standard for Liquefied Hydrogen Systems at Consumer Sites	6/28/2002
NFPA 51B-1999	Standard for Fire Prevention During Welding, Cutting, and Other Hot Work	12/28/2001
NFPA 55-1998	Standard for the Storage, Use, and Handling of Compressed and Liquefied Gases in Portable Cylinders.	7/6/2001
NFPA 80-1999	Standard for Fire Doors and Fire Windows	8/1/2001
NFPA 85-2001	Boiler and Combustion Systems Hazards Code	6/28/2002
NFPA 86-1999	Standard for Ovens and Furnaces	12/28/2001
NFPA 86C-1999	Standard for Industrial Furnaces Using a Special Processing Atmosphere	12/28/2001
NFPA 88B-1997	Standard for Repair Garages	7/6/2001
NFPA 97-2000	Standard Glossary of Terms Relating to Chimneys, Vents, and Heat-Producing Appliances.	7/6/2001
NFPA 105-1999	Recommended Practice for the Installation of Smoke-Control Door Assemblies	7/6/2001
NFPA 123-1999	Standard for Fire Prevention and Control in Underground Bituminous Coal Mines ...	7/6/2001
NFPA 130-2000	Standard for Fixed Guideway Transit and Passenger Rail Systems	7/6/2001
NFPA 140-1999	Standard for Motion Picture and Television Production Studio Soundstages and Approved Production Facilities.	7/6/2001
NFPA 211-2000	Standard for Chimneys, Fireplaces, Vents, and Solid Fuel-Burning Appliances	7/6/2001
NFPA 225-P ¹	Standard for Manufactured Home Sites, Communities, and Setups	7/6/2001
NFPA 230-1999	Standard for the Fire Protection of Storage	7/6/2001
NFPA 252-1999	Standard Methods of Fire Tests of Door Assemblies	12/28/2001
NFPA 256-1998	Standard Methods of Fire Tests of Roof Coverings	7/6/2001
NFPA 259-1998	Standard Test Method for Potential Heat of Building Materials	7/6/2001