

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

United States Patent and Trademark Office

Patents External Quality Survey

ACTION: Proposed collection; comment request.

SUMMARY: The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), 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 this extension of a continuing information collection, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104–13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before December 8, 2015.

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

- *Email:* InformationCollection@uspto.gov. Include ‘0651–0057 comment’ in the subject line of the message.
- *Federal Rulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>.
- *Mail:* Marcie Lovett, Records Management Division Director, Office of the Chief Information Officer, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313–1450.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information should be directed to Martin Rater, Management Analyst, Office of Patent Quality Assurance, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313–1450; by telephone at 571–272–5966; or by email to Martin.Rater@USPTO.GOV, with “0651–0057 comment” in the subject line. Additional information about this collection is also available at <http://www.reginfo.gov> under “Information Collection Review.”

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The USPTO developed the Patents External Quality Survey in 2006 as part of its quality improvement efforts. This survey narrows the focus of customer satisfaction to examination quality and uses a longitudinal, rotating panel design to assess changes in customer perceptions and to identify key areas for examiner training and opportunities for improvement. The USPTO plans to survey patent agents, attorneys, and other individuals from large domestic corporations (including those with 500+ employees), small and medium-size businesses, and universities and other non-profit research organizations. In addition, the USPTO also plans to survey independent inventors. The USPTO does not plan to survey foreign entities.

The USPTO will draw a random sample of these customers from their database. Due to the rotating panel design, some sample members will be surveyed twice in order to measure change over a period of time. Each year of the survey will include two waves of data collection.

The Patents External Quality Survey is a mail survey, although respondents can also complete the survey electronically on the Web. The content of both versions will be identical. A survey packet containing the questionnaire, a separate cover letter prepared by the Deputy Commissioner of Patent Quality, a postage-paid, pre-addressed return envelope, and instructions for completing the survey electronically will be mailed to all sample members. A pre-notification letter, reminder/thank you postcards, and telephone calls will be used to encourage response from sample members.

This is a voluntary survey and all responses will remain confidential. The collected data will not be linked to the respondent and contact information that

is used for sampling purposes will be maintained in a separate file from the quantitative data. Respondents are not required to provide any identifying information such as their name, address, or Social Security Number. In order to access and complete the online survey, respondents will need to use the username, password, and survey ID number provided by the USPTO.

II. Method of Collection

Electronically via email; by postal mail, facsimile, or hand delivery in paper form.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0651–0057.
IC Instruments and Forms: No form numbers.

Type of Review: Revision of a currently previously existing Information Collection.

Affected Public: Individuals or households; businesses or other for-profits; and non-profit institutions.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 3,100 responses per year.

Estimated Time per Response: The USPTO estimates that it will take the public 10 minutes (.17 hours) to submit a single item in this collection, including: The time to gather the necessary information, prepare the appropriate form or petition, and submit the completed request to the USPTO. The time per response, estimated annual responses, and estimated annual hour burden associated with each instrument in this collection are shown in the table below.

Estimated Total Annual Respondent Burden Hours: 516.67 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Respondent (Hourly) Cost Burden: \$211,834.70. The USPTO expects that attorneys will complete these applications. The professional hourly rate for attorneys is \$410. Using this hourly rate, the USPTO estimates that the total respondent cost burden for this collection is \$211,834.70 per year.

| IC No. | Item | Hours (a) | Responses (yr) (b) | Burden (hrs/yr) (c) (a) × (b) | Rate (\$/hr) (d) |
|-------------|--|--------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 | Patents External Quality Survey | 0.17 | 465 | 77.5 | \$410.00 |
| 2 | Electronic Patents External Quality Survey | 0.17 | 2,635 | 439.17 | 410.00 |
| Total | | | 3,100 | 516.67 | |

Estimated Total Annual (Non-hour) Respondent Cost Burden: \$0. There are no annual (non-hour) costs associated with this information collection. Respondents do not need to submit

filing fees with these surveys. The USPTO covers the costs of all survey materials and provides postage-paid, pre-addressed return envelopes for the completed mail surveys so there are no

postage costs associated with this information collection.

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: October 2, 2015.

Marcie Lovett,

*Records Management Division Director,
USPTO, Office of the Chief Information
Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2015-25826 Filed 10-8-15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-16-P

**COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM
PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR
SEVERELY DISABLED**

Procurement List; Proposed Deletions

AGENCY: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled.

ACTION: Proposed Deletions From the Procurement List.

SUMMARY: The Committee is proposing to delete products from the Procurement List that was previously furnished by the nonprofit agency employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities.

Comments Must Be Received on or Before: 11/8/2015.

ADDRESSES: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, 1401 S. Clark Street, Suite 715, Arlington, Virginia 22202-4149.

For Further Information or To Submit Comments Contact: Barry S. Lineback, Telephone: (703) 603-7740, Fax: (703) 603-0655, or email CMTEFedReg@AbilityOne.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice is published pursuant to 41 U.S.C. 8503 (a)(2) and 41 CFR 51-2.3. Its purpose is to provide interested persons an opportunity to submit comments on the proposed actions.

Deletions

The following products are proposed for deletion from the Procurement List:

Products

Product Name(s)—NSN(s):

Skirt, Service, Coast Guard, Women's, Dress Blue

8410-01-452-3387—10 Junior Long
8410-01-452-3388—6 Misses Short
8410-01-452-3389—6 Women's Regular
8410-01-452-3390—10 Misses Short
8410-01-452-3391—6 Misses Regular
8410-01-452-3393—4 Misses Regular
8410-01-452-3394—8 Misses Regular
8410-01-452-3395—8 Misses Long
8410-01-452-3396—8 Women's Short
8410-01-452-3397—8 Women's Regular
8410-01-452-3398—10 Junior Regular
8410-01-452-3399—10 Women's Short
8410-01-452-3400—8 Misses Short
8410-01-452-3402—10 Misses Regular
8410-01-452-3404—10 Misses Long
8410-01-452-3653—12 Junior Long
8410-01-452-3654—12 Misses Short
8410-01-452-3655—20 Misses Regular
8410-01-452-3656—12 Misses Regular
8410-01-452-3657—12 Misses Long
8410-01-452-3658—10 Women's Long
8410-01-452-3659—12 Women's Long
8410-01-452-3660—10 Women's Regular
8410-01-452-3661—12 Junior Regular
8410-01-452-3662—12 Women's Short
8410-01-452-3663—14 Misses Short
8410-01-452-3664—14 Junior Short
8410-01-452-3665—14 Women's Short
8410-01-452-3666—14 Misses Long
8410-01-452-3667—14 Misses Regular
8410-01-452-3668—16 Junior Short
8410-01-452-3669—16 Junior Regular
8410-01-452-3670—16 Misses Long
8410-01-452-3671—14 Junior Long
8410-01-452-3672—14 Women's Regular
8410-01-452-3673—14 Junior Regular
8410-01-452-3674—18 Women's Regular
8410-01-452-3675—20 Women's Regular
8410-01-452-3676—22 Women's Regular
8410-01-452-3677—14 Women's Long
8410-01-452-3678—18 Misses Regular
8410-01-452-3679—16 Junior Long
8410-01-452-3680—18 Misses Short
8410-01-452-3681—16 Women's Regular
8410-01-452-3682—16 Misses Regular
Skirt, Dress, Coast Guard, Women's, Dress Blue
8410-01-452-6191—6 Women's Short
8410-01-452-6195—12 Women's Regular
8410-01-452-6197—16 Women's Long
Skirt, Air Force, Women's, Blue
8410-01-375-8495—4MR
8410-01-375-8496—6MR
8410-01-375-8497—6WR
8410-01-375-8498—8MR
8410-01-375-8499—8WR
8410-01-375-8500—10MR
8410-01-375-8501—10WR
8410-01-375-8502—12MR
8410-01-375-8503—12WR
8410-01-375-8504—14MR
8410-01-375-8505—14WR
8410-01-375-8506—16MR
8410-01-375-8507—16WR
8410-01-375-8508—18MR
8410-01-375-8509—18WR
8410-01-375-8510—20MR

8410-01-377-9345—6WL
8410-01-377-9442—16WL
8410-01-377-9464—4WR
8410-01-377-9487—6MS
8410-01-377-9491—6ML
8410-01-377-9500—14WS
8410-01-377-9536—12WL
8410-01-377-9581—10MS
8410-01-377-9598—10ML
8410-01-377-9642—10WL
8410-01-377-9719—16MS
8410-01-377-9747—12WS
8410-01-377-9812—14WL
8410-01-377-9899—12MS
8410-01-377-9906—12ML
8410-01-377-9934—8WL
8410-01-377-9938—8ML
8410-01-377-9943—18WL
8410-01-377-9953—6WS
8410-01-377-9964—2MS
8410-01-377-9968—2MR
8410-01-377-9981—4WS
8410-01-377-9982—8WS
8410-01-377-9998—10WS
8410-01-378-0012—4MS
8410-01-378-0020—14MS
8410-01-378-0067—6ML

Skirt, Commissioned and Enlisted, Air Force, Women's, Blue

8410-01-377-9383—16ML
8410-01-377-9399—8MS
8410-01-377-9416—16WS
8410-01-377-9422—8ML

Mandatory Source of Supply: VGS, Inc., Cleveland, OH.

Contracting Activity: Defense Logistics Agency Troop Support, Philadelphia, PA.

Barry S. Lineback,

Director, Business Operations.

[FR Doc. 2015-25754 Filed 10-8-15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6353-01-P

**COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM
PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR
SEVERELY DISABLED**

Procurement List; Addition

AGENCY: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled.

ACTION: Addition to the Procurement List.

SUMMARY: This action adds a service to the Procurement List that will be provided by nonprofit agency employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities.

DATES: *Effective Date:* 11/8/2015.

ADDRESSES: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, 1401 S. Clark Street, Suite 715, Arlington, Virginia, 22202-4149.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Barry S. Lineback, Telephone: (703) 603-7740, Fax: (703) 603-0655, or email CMTEFedReg@AbilityOne.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: