

13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910; phone (301)713-2289; fax (301)427-2521; and Northeast Region, NMFS, One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930-2298; phone (978)281-9200; fax (978)281-9371.

Written comments or requests for a public hearing on this application should be mailed to the Chief, Permits, Conservation and Education Division, F/PR1, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Those individuals requesting a hearing should set forth the specific reasons why a hearing on this particular request would be appropriate.

Comments may also be submitted by facsimile at (301)427-2521, provided the facsimile is confirmed by hard copy submitted by mail and postmarked no later than the closing date of the comment period.

Comments may also be submitted by e-mail. The mailbox address for providing email comments is [NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov](mailto:NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov). Include in the subject line of the e-mail comment the following document identifier: File No. 1093-1834.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Kate Swails or Tammy Adams, (301)713-2289.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The subject permit is requested under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (MMPA; 16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), and the Regulations Governing the Taking and Importing of Marine Mammals (50 CFR part 216).

The applicant requests a 5-year permit to investigate the utility of free-ranging harbor seals as a mammalian sentinel species for coastal contamination and associated health risks for top consumers in the marine food chain. Harbor seal pups tend to accumulate high body burdens of persistent organic pollutants. The applicant proposes to capture up to 280 harbor seal pups at six locations from Maine to Massachusetts over the course of the permit. The animals would be captured using seine nets or hand held hoop nets, measured, weighed, blood sampled, blubber/skin biopsied, swabbed for fecal and nasal samples, and released. The applicant also requests authorization for the research-related mortality of up to two seals over the course of the permit.

Concurrent with the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, NMFS is forwarding copies of this application to the Marine Mammal Commission and its Committee of Scientific Advisors.

Dated: March 8, 2006.

**Stephen L. Leathery**,  
Chief, Permits, Conservation and Education  
Division, Office of Protected Resources,  
National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. E6-3629 Filed 3-13-06; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-S**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 021306A]

#### Vessel Monitoring Systems; Approval of Mobile Transceiver Unit Reseller

**AGENCY:** National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice; addition of an authorized reseller.

**SUMMARY:** This document provides notice of the addition of an authorized reseller for the previously type approved ST2500G-NMFS Mobile Transceiver Unit (MTU).

**ADDRESSES:** To obtain copies of the list of NOAA-approved Vessel Monitoring Systems (VMS) MTU and VMS MCSPs, or to obtain information regarding the status of VMS systems being evaluated by NOAA, write to NOAA Fisheries, Office for Law Enforcement (OLE), 8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 415, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For current listing information contact Mark Oswell, Outreach Specialist, or for questions regarding VMS installation and status of evaluations contact Jonathan Pinkerton, National VMS Program Manager by phone: 301-427-2300 or by fax: 301-427-2055.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The reseller listed below is authorized to sell the Stellar ST2500G-NMFS MTU for use on vessels operating in fisheries that require the use of a VMS and listed within the approved sales area of this notice.

#### A. Additional Approved Reseller

METOCEAN Data Systems; 21 Thornhill Drive; Dartmouth, Nova Scotia Canada B3B 1R9. telephone (902) 468-2505, fax (902) 468-4442. For additional information METOCEAN Data Systems can be found on the Internet at [www.metocean.com](http://www.metocean.com).

#### B. Approved Sales Areas

METOCEAN Data Systems is approved to resell the Stellar ST2500G-NMFS MTU to fishers operating in the Alaska Fisheries Requiring VMS, Pacific

Coast Groundfish Fishery, South Atlantic Rock Shrimp Fishery, and the Atlantic Highly Migratory Species (HMS) Fishery.

Dated: March 8, 2006.

**William T. Hogarth**,  
Assistant Administrator for Fisheries,  
National Marine Fisheries Service.  
[FR Doc. E6-3631 Filed 3-13-06; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-S**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Patent and Trademark Office

#### Event Planning

**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 comment on this new 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 May 15, 2006.

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

- E-mail: [Susan.Brown@uspto.gov](mailto:Susan.Brown@uspto.gov). Include "0651-00xx Event Planning comment" in the subject line of the message.
- Fax: 571-273-0112, marked to the attention of Susan Brown.
- Mail: Susan K. Brown, Records Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Architecture, Engineering and Technical Services, Data Architecture and Services Division, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.
- Federal e-Rulemaking Portal: <http://www.regulations.gov>

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information should be directed to Elizabeth Shaw, Office of External Affairs, United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), P.O. Box 1451, Alexandria, VA 22313-1451; by telephone at 571-272-9300; or by e-mail at [elizabeth.shaw2@uspto.gov](mailto:elizabeth.shaw2@uspto.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### I. Abstract

The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) is responsible under 35 U.S.C. 2(A)(2) for the dissemination of patent and trademark information to the public. This information can include planning for long-term goals, outreach to

independent inventors, assistance to small businesses, prevention of unlawful intellectual property practices, international trends, and cooperation between Intellectual Property entities, in addition to other types of information. The USPTO sponsors conferences, fairs, speaking engagements, and training seminars such as those offered under the Patent and Trademark Depository Library Program, as well as other events, to disseminate this information. In order to plan for these events, the USPTO must collect information from the attendees.

The USPTO plans to use an online registration screen available through the <http://www.uspto.gov> Web site for all of the event registrations. However, the USPTO believes that some of the PTDL registrations may still be submitted in paper. Online registration will standardize data collection for USPTO-sponsored events and provide for more efficient event planning. Attendees may complete forms for event registration online and e-mail them to the USPTO, or they may print, complete in ink, and

mail the registrations to the USPTO. The USPTO has no plans to disseminate this information electronically or otherwise.

## II. Method of Collection

Registrations for events other than the PTDLs can only be submitted using the online registration option. Registration for various PTDL events can be submitted electronically. The registrations can also be submitted by mail or by hand delivery if applicants choose to submit the information in paper form.

## III. Data

*OMB Number:* 0651-00xx.

*Form Number(s):* No Form Numbers.

*Type of Review:* New collection.

*Affected Public:* Primarily business or other for-profit organizations, but also individuals or households; not-for-profit institutions; farms, Federal Government; and state, local or tribal Government.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 4,100 responses per year.

*Estimated Time Per Response:* The USPTO estimates that it will take the public approximately 5 minutes (0.08

hours) to complete this information, whether it is mailed to the USPTO or submitted electronically. This includes the time to gather the necessary information, complete the request, and submit it to the USPTO.

*Estimated Total Annual Respondent Burden Hours:* 328 hours per year.

*Estimated Total Annual Respondent Cost Burden:* \$43,296. It is estimated that the respondent audience will be  $\frac{1}{3}$  attorneys,  $\frac{1}{3}$  paraprofessionals and members of the Patent and Trademark Depository Library Program, and  $\frac{1}{3}$  independent inventors, students, or other members of the public. Using a combination of the professional hourly rates of \$286 for associate attorneys in private firms, \$81 for paraprofessionals and members of the Patent and Trademark Depository Library Program, and \$30 for independent inventors, students, and other members of the public, the USPTO is using an hourly rate of \$132 to calculate the respondent costs. The USPTO estimates that the respondent cost burden for this collection will be \$43,296 per year.

Item	Estimated time for response	Estimated annual responses	Estimated annual burden hours
Event Registrations (electronic) .....	5 minutes .....	4,000	320
PTDL Registrations (paper) .....	5 minutes .....	10	1
PTDL Registrations (electronic) .....	5 minutes .....	90	7
Total .....	.....	4,100	328

*Estimated Total Annual Non-hour Respondent Cost Burden:* \$4. This collection does not have any capital start-up, maintenance, operation, or recordkeeping costs or filing fees associated with it. Customers can register for PTDL events electronically or they can print out the request, complete it, and mail it to the USPTO through the United States Postal Service. The USPTO estimates that 10 PTDL registrations will be submitted via first class mail. First class postage is 39 cents. Therefore, the USPTO estimates a total annual (non-hour) cost burden of \$4 due to mailing costs.

## 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: March 6, 2006.

**Susan K. Brown,**

*Records Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Architecture, Engineering and Technical Services, Data Architecture and Services Division.*

[FR Doc. E6-3561 Filed 3-13-06; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-16-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Patent And Trademark Office

#### Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

*Agency:* United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO).

*Title:* Statutory Invention Registration.

*Form Number(s):* PTO/SB/94.

*Agency Approval Number:* 0651-0036.

*Type of Request:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

*Burden:* 4 hours annually.

*Number of Respondents:* 8 responses per year.

*Avg. Hours Per Response:* The USPTO estimates that it will take 24 minutes (0.4 hours) to submit a Statutory