

ACTION: Notice of rescission of antidumping duty administrative review.

SUMMARY: In response to an October 30, 2000 request made by NTN Corporation (NTN), a manufacturer/exporter of tapered roller bearings (TRBs) and parts thereof, finished and unfinished, from Japan, on November 30, 2000, the Department of Commerce (the Department) published the initiation of an administrative review of the antidumping duty order on TRBs and parts thereof, finished and unfinished, from Japan, covering the period October 1, 1999 through December 31, 1999 (65 FR 71299). This review has now been rescinded as a result of the timely withdrawal by NTN of its request for review.

EFFECTIVE DATE: February 28, 2001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Deborah Scott or Robert James, AD/CVD Enforcement, Group III, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482-2657 or (202) 482-0649, respectively.

APPLICABLE STATUTE AND REGULATIONS: Unless otherwise indicated, all citations to the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Tariff Act) are references to the provisions effective January 1, 1995, the effective date of the amendments made to the Tariff Act by the Uruguay Round Agreements Act. In addition, unless otherwise indicated, all citations to the Department's regulations are to 19 CFR part 351 (April 1, 2000).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On October 6, 1987, the Department published the antidumping duty order on TRBs and parts thereof, finished and unfinished, from Japan (A-588-604) (52 FR 37352). On October 30, 2000, NTN, a manufacturer/exporter of TRBs from Japan, requested an administrative review of the antidumping duty order on TRBs for the period October 1, 1999 through December 31, 1999. In accordance with 19 CFR 351.221(c)(1)(i), we published the initiation of the review on November 30, 2000 (65 FR 71299). On December 8, 2000, NTN withdrew its request for review.

Rescission of Review

The Department's regulations, at 19 CFR 351.213(d)(1), provide that the Department will rescind an administrative review if a party that requested a review withdraws the

request within 90 days of the date of publication of the notice of initiation of the requested review. NTN withdrew its request for an administrative review on December 8, 2000, which is within the 90-day deadline. No other party requested a review of NTN's sales. Therefore, the Department is rescinding this administrative review with respect to NTN.

This notice also serves as a reminder to parties subject to administrative protective order (APO) of their responsibility concerning the disposition of proprietary information disclosed under APO in accordance with 19 CFR 351.305(a)(3). Timely written notification of the return or destruction of APO materials or conversion to judicial protective order is hereby requested. Failure to comply with the regulations and the terms of an APO is a sanctionable violation.

We are issuing and publishing this notice in accordance with sections 751(a)(1) and 777(i)(1) of the Tariff Act. Effective January 20, 2001, Bernard T. Carreau is fulfilling the duties of the Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.

Dated: January 31, 2001.

Bernard T. Carreau,
Deputy Assistant Secretary, AD/CVD
Enforcement II.

[FR Doc. 01-4897 Filed 2-27-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DS-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

Private Sector Participation in Overseas Trade Missions

AGENCY: International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce invites U.S. companies to participate in the below listed overseas trade missions. For a more complete description of each trade mission, obtain a copy of the mission statement from the Project Officer indicated for each mission below. Recruitment and selection of private sector participants for these missions will be conducted according to the Statement of Policy Governing Department of Commerce Overseas Trade Missions dated March 3, 1997.

Computer, Telecommunications and Office Equipment (CTO) Forum and Seminar Mission, Lagos, Nigeria. March 15-16, 2001. Recruitment Closes on March 8, 2001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Raymond Cho, U.S. Department of Commerce. Telephone 202-482-0396; or e-Mail: Raymond_Cho@ita.doc.gov
IT-Telecommunications Trade Mission to Russia, Moscow and St. Petersburg. May 12-19, 2001. Recruitment closes on April 6, 2001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Beatrix Roberts, U.S. Department of Commerce. Telephone 202-482-2952; or e-Mail: Beatrix_Roberts@ita.doc.gov
U.S. Franchising Matchmaker Trade Delegation, Santiago, Chile and Sao Paulo, Brazil. June 4-9, 2001. Recruitment closes on April 20, 2001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Sam Dhir, U.S. Department of Commerce. Telephone 202-482-4756; or e-Mail: Sam.Dhir@mail.doc.gov
Trade mission applications received after the above closing dates will be considered only if space and scheduling constraints permit. For further information contact Mr. Reginald Beckham, U.S. Department of Commerce, telephone 202-482-5478, or e-mail
Reginald_Beckham@ita.doc.gov

Dated: February 22, 2001.

Thomas H. Nisbet,

Director, Promotion Planning and Support Division, Office of Export Promotion Coordination.

[FR Doc. 01-4833 Filed 2-27-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DR-U

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Institute of Standards and Technology

[Docket No. 000929280-0280-01]

RIN 0693-ZA-42

Announcing Draft Federal Information Processing Standard (FIPS) for the Advanced Encryption Standard (AES) and Request for Comments

AGENCY: National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice; request for comments.

SUMMARY: Recently, NIST announced its selection for the Advanced Encryption Standard (AES) in a report available at <http://www.nist.gov/aes/>, and this selection for the AES has now been described in detail in a Draft Federal Information Processing Standard (FIPS) for the AES. The Draft FIPS for the AES specifies technology that can be used to protect the confidentiality of sensitive (unclassified) electronic information. The AES specification will provide a FIPS-approved encryption algorithm in addition to the Triple Data Encryption

Algorithm ("Triple DES"), which is specified in FIPS 46-3.

NIST invites public comments on the Draft FIPS for the AES. After the comment period closes, NIST will analyze the comments, make changes to the document, as appropriate, and then propose the draft standard to the Secretary of Commerce for approval as a FIPS.

DATES: Comments on the Draft FIPS for the AES must be received on or before May 29, 2001.

Specifications: Specifications for the Draft FIPS for the AES are available through the AES home page: <http://www.nist.gov/aes/>.

ADDRESSES: Official comments on the Draft FIPS for the AES may either be sent electronically to AEScomments@nist.gov or by regular mail to: Chief, Computer Security Division, Information Technology Laboratory, ATTN: Comments on Draft FIPS for the AES, 100 Bureau Drive, Stop 8930, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, MD 20899-8930.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. James Foti (301) 975-5237, jfoti@nist.gov, National Institute of Standards and Technology, 100 Bureau Drive, STOP 8930, Gaithersburg, MD 20899-8930.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In January 1997, NIST initiated an effort to develop the Advanced Encryption Standard (AES), which would provide cryptographic security well into the twenty-first century. In August 1999, NIST announced five publicly submitted candidate algorithms as finalists for the AES, and invited public review, comment, and analysis in order to make a selection for the Draft FIPS for the AES. During the Round 2 technical evaluation period, these five finalists were subjected to extensive analysis and testing by the cryptographic community. After much careful study and consideration of the finalists and Round 2 public comments, NIST made its selection for the Draft FIPS for the AES, and issued a report explaining that selection. The report is available at <http://www.nist.gov/aes/>.

NIST strongly encourages the public to continue performing analyses of the security of the AES, and to submit those analyses as official comments in response to this request. Such analyses and other comments received will be considered by NIST in preparing the final version of the FIPS for the AES.

NIST seeks detailed comments regarding any intellectual property that may be infringed by the practice of the algorithm(s) in the Draft FIPS for the

AES. This includes comments from all parties regarding specific claims that the practice of a finalist's algorithm infringes on their patent(s). Claims regarding infringement of copyrighted software are also particularly solicited. NIST views this input as a critical factor in the eventual widespread adoption and implementation of the Draft FIPS for the AES.

NIST reminds all interested parties that the AES development effort is being conducted as an open standards-setting activity. Specifically, NIST has requested that all interested parties identify to NIST any patents or inventions that may be required for the use of AES. Public comments received in response to this request will be posted periodically during the comment period at <http://csrc.nist.gov/cryptval/aes/draftfips/>.

To encourage on-going discussions related to the AES, NIST will continue to maintain its AES electronic discussion forum at <http://aes.nist.gov/aes/>. Please note that comments posted at that site will NOT be considered "official" comments.

No additional conferences are planned for the Draft FIPS for the AES at this time.

NIST intends to develop a Draft FIPS for AES Modes of Operation. Given the need for further public discussion and study of suggested modes of operation, NIST will hold a public workshop to discuss the Draft FIPS. Details on this effort are located at <http://www.nist.gov/modes/>.

Authority: Federal Information Processing Standards Publications (FIPS PUBS) are issued by the National Institute of Standards and Technology after approval by the Secretary of Commerce pursuant to section 5131 of the Information Technology Management Reform Act of 1996 and the Computer Security Act of 1987, Public Law 100-235.

E.O. 12866: This notice has been determined to be significant for purposes of E.O. 12866.

Dated: February 20, 2001.

Karen Brown,

Acting Director, NIST.

[FR Doc. 01-4886 Filed 2-27-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 121200J]

Marine Mammals; File No. 87-1593-00

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and

Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Issuance of permit.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Dr. Daniel Costa (Principal Investigator), Institute of Marine Sciences, Earth & Marine Sciences Bldg. A316, University of California, Santa Cruz, CA, 95064, has been issued a permit to take California sea lions (*Zalophus californianus*) and Antarctic pinnipeds for purposes of scientific research.

DATES: Written or telefaxed comments must be received on or before March 30, 2001.

ADDRESSES: The permit and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following office(s):

Permits and Documentation Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13130, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (301/713-2289); and

Southwest Region, NMFS, 501 West Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213; phone (562)980-4001; fax (562)980-4018.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ruth Johnson, 301/713-2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On August 15, 2000, and on November 15, 2000, notices were published in the **Federal Register** (65 FR 49786 and 68983) that a request for a scientific research permit to take California sea lions and Antarctic pinnipeds had been submitted by the above-named individual.

Project I - The Holder is studying the foraging ecology and energetics of California sea lions of all age and sex classes in southern and central California, including San Nicolas, Ano Nuevo and San Miguel Islands. The Permit authorizes, annually, for 5 years, 40 adult sea lions and 100 pup sea lions will be captured, tagged, bleach marked, instrumented with satellite linked TDRs, blood sampled, and measured. In addition the Holder is authorized to incidentally harass up to 6,650 animals annually and is allowed up to five accidental mortalities over the five-year period.

Project II - The Holder is studying Crabeater seals (*Lobodon carcinophagus*). The Permit authorizes annually, for up to 5 years, 25 *L. carcinophagus* and 10 each for leopard seal (*Hydrurga leptonyx*), Weddell seal (*Leptonychotes weddellii*), and Ross seal (*Ommatophoca rossi*). Animals will be captured, immobilized, weighed/measured, sampled [blood and biopsy, whisker], administered tritiated saline water, flipper tagged, marked, lavaged for stomach contents, and instrumented