

DATES: Please submit nominations within 60 days of the publication of this notice.

ADDRESSES: Nominations should be submitted to Jennifer Lo, Program Manager, National Medal of Technology and Innovation Program, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. Nominations also may be submitted via fax: (571) 270-9100 or by electronic mail to: nmti@uspto.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jennifer Lo, Program Manager, National Medal of Technology and Innovation Program, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, telephone (571) 272-7640, or electronic mail: nmti@uspto.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The committee was established in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) (Title 5, United States Code, Appendix 2). The following provides information about the committee and membership:

- Committee members are appointed by and serve at the discretion of the Secretary of Commerce. The committee provides advice to the Secretary on the implementation of Public Law 96-480 (15 U.S.C. 3711), as amended August 9, 2007.
- The committee functions solely as an advisory body under the FACA. Members are appointed to the 12-member committee for a term of three years. Each will be reevaluated at the conclusion of the three-year term with the prospect of renewal, pending advisory committee needs and the Secretary's concurrence. Selection of membership is made in accordance with applicable Department of Commerce guidelines.
- Members are responsible for reviewing nominations and making recommendations for the Nation's highest honor for technological innovation, awarded annually by the President of the United States. Members of the committee must have an understanding of, and experience in, developing and utilizing technological innovation and/or be familiar with the education, training, employment and management of technological manpower.

- Under the FACA, membership on a committee must be balanced. To achieve balance, the Department is seeking additional nominations of candidates from small, medium-sized, and large businesses or with special expertise in the following sub-sectors of the technology enterprise:

Medical Innovations/Bioengineering and Biomedical Technology/
Technology Management/Computing/
IT/Manufacturing Innovation/
Technological Manpower/Workforce
Training/Education

Committee members generally are Chief Executive Officers or former Chief Executive Officers; former winners of the National Medal of Technology and Innovation; presidents or distinguished faculty of universities; or senior executives of non-profit organizations. As such, they not only offer the stature of their positions but also possess intimate knowledge of the forces determining future directions for their organizations and industries. The committee as a whole is balanced in representing geographical, professional, and diverse interests.

Nomination Information:

- Nominees must be United States citizens, must be able to fully participate in meetings pertaining to the review and selection of finalists for the National Medal of Technology and Innovation, and must uphold the confidential nature of an independent peer review and competitive selection process.
- The United States Patent and Trademark Office is committed to equal opportunity in the workplace and seeks a broad-based and diverse committee membership.

Date: December 2, 2008.

Jon W. Dudas,

Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

[FR Doc. E9-104 Filed 1-7-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-16-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

United States Patent and Trademark Office

[Docket No. PTO-C-2008-0059]

National Medal of Technology and Innovation Call for 2009 Nominations

AGENCY: United States Patent and Trademark Office.

ACTION: Notice and request for nominations.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce (United States Patent and Trademark Office) is accepting nominations for its National Medal of Technology and Innovation (NMTI) program.

Since establishment by Congress in 1980, the President of the United States has awarded the National Medal of Technology and Innovation (formerly

known as the National Medal of Technology) annually to our Nation's leading innovators. If you know of a candidate who has made an outstanding, lasting contribution to the economy through the promotion of technology or technological manpower, you may obtain a nomination form from: <http://www.uspto.gov/nmti>.

Eligibility and Criteria: Information on eligibility and nomination criteria is provided on the Nominations Guidelines Form at <http://www.uspto.gov/nmti>.

DATES: The deadline for submission of an application is May 29, 2009.

ADDRESSES: The NMTI Nomination form for the year 2009 may be obtained by visiting the Web site at <http://www.uspto.gov/nmti>. Nomination applications should be submitted to Jennifer Lo, Program Manager, National Medal of Technology and Innovation Program, by electronic mail to: NMTI@uspto.gov or by mail to: Jennifer Lo, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jennifer Lo, Program Manager, National Medal of Technology and Innovation Program, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, telephone (571) 272-7640, or electronic mail: nmti@uspto.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Enacted by Congress in 1980, the Medal of Technology was first awarded in 1985. On August 9, 2007, the President signed the America COMPETES (Creating Opportunities to Meaningfully Promote Excellence in Technology, Education, and Science) Act of 2007. The Act amended section 16 of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980, changing the name of the Medal to the "National Medal of Technology and Innovation." The Medal is the highest honor awarded by the President of the United States to America's leading innovators in the field of technology, and is given annually to individuals, teams, or companies who have made outstanding contributions to the promotion of technology or technological manpower for the improvement of the economic, environmental or social well-being of the United States.

The primary purpose of the National Medal of Technology and Innovation is to recognize American innovators whose vision, creativity, and brilliance in moving ideas to market have had a profound and lasting impact on our economy and way of life. The Medal highlights the national importance of

fostering technological innovation based upon solid science, resulting in commercially successful products and services.

Dated: December 2, 2008.

Jon W. Dudas,

Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

[FR Doc. E9-102 Filed 1-7-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-16-P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

Revised Non-Foreign Overseas Per Diem Rates

AGENCY: DoD, Per Diem, Travel and Transportation Allowance Committee.

ACTION: Notice of revised non-foreign overseas per diem rates.

SUMMARY: The Per Diem, Travel and Transportation Allowance Committee is publishing Civilian Personnel Per Diem Bulletin Number 261. This bulletin lists revisions in the per diem rates prescribed for U.S. Government employees for official travel in Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, the Northern Mariana Islands and Possessions of the United States. AEA changes announced in Bulletin Number 194 remain in effect. Bulletin Number 261 is being published in the **Federal Register** to assure that travelers are paid per diem at the most current rates.

DATES: *Effective Date:* January 1, 2009.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This document gives notice of revisions in per diem rates prescribed by the Per

Diem Travel and Transportation Allowance Committee for non-foreign areas outside the continental United States. It supersedes Civilian Personnel Per Diem Bulletin Number 260. Distribution of Civilian Personnel Per Diem Bulletins by mail was discontinued. Per Diem Bulletins published periodically in the **Federal Register** now constitute the only notification of revisions in per diem rates to agencies and establishments outside the Department of Defense. For more information or questions about per diem rates, please contact your local travel office. The text of the Bulletin follows:

Dated: December 30, 2008.

Patricia L. Toppings,

*OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer,
Department of Defense.*

BILLING CODE 5001-06-P