

(except 1954). ARTS covers employer firms with establishments located in the United States and classified in the Retail Trade and/or Accommodation and Food Services sectors as defined by the 2007 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). ARTS provides, on a comparable classification basis, annual sales, annual e-commerce sales, purchases, total operating expenses, accounts receivables, and year-end inventories held inside and outside the United States for 2011. The Census Bureau has determined that the conduct of this survey is necessary because these data are not available publicly on a timely basis from any other sources.

A new sample of firms will be selected for the 2011 ARTS. It is expected that approximately 60–70% of the companies that are asked to report will be doing so for the first time (and, consequently, 60–70% of the prior sample will no longer be asked to report). In order to link estimates from the new and prior samples, we will be asking companies to provide data for 2011 and 2010. The ARTS for 2012 and those for subsequent years will request one year of data until a new sample is once again introduced.

Firms are selected for the ARTS survey using a stratified random sample based on industry groupings and annual sales size. We will provide report forms to the firms covered by this survey in January 2012, and will require their responses within 60 days after receipt. Firms' responses to the ARTS survey are required by law (Title 13 U.S.C. Sections 182, 224, and 225). The sample of firms selected will provide, with measurable reliability, statistics on annual sales, annual e-commerce sales, purchases, total operating expenses, accounts receivables, and year-end inventories held both inside and outside the United States for 2011.

The data collected in this survey will be similar to that collected in the past and within the general scope and nature of those inquiries covered in the economic census. These data are collected to provide a sound statistical basis for the formation of policy by various government agencies. Results will be available for use for a variety of public and business needs including economic and market analysis, company performance, and forecasting future demand.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall a person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with, a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) unless that collection of information displays a

current valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number. In accordance with the PRA, 44 U.S.C. 3501–3521, OMB has approved the Annual Retail Trade Survey under OMB Control Number 0607–0013.

Based upon the foregoing, I have directed that an annual survey be conducted for the purpose of collecting these data.

Dated: November 2, 2011.

Robert M. Groves,

Director, Bureau of the Census.

[FR Doc. 2011–28881 Filed 11–7–11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–07–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Bureau of Industry and Security

Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Request for the Appointment of a Technical Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, 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 proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before January 9, 2012.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Diana Hynek, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6616, 14th and Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at dHynek@doc.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed to Larry Hall, BIS ICB Liaison, (202) 482–4895, Lawrence.Hall@bis.doc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

This collection of information is required by the Export Administration Regulations and the Federal Advisory Committee Act. The Technical Advisory Committees (TACs) were established to advise and assist the U.S. Government on export control matters such as proposed revisions to export control lists, licensing procedures, assessments of the foreign availability of controlled

products, and export control regulations. Under this collection, interested parties may submit a request to BIS to establish a new TAC. The Bureau of Industry and Security provides administrative support for these Committees.

II. Method of Collection

Submitted electronically or on paper.

III. Data

OMB Control Number: 0694–0100.

Form Number(s): None.

Type of Review: Regular submission (extension of a currently approved collection).

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 1.

Estimated Time per Response: 5 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 5.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: \$0.

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, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: November 2, 2011.

Gwellnar Banks,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 2011–28786 Filed 11–7–11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–33–P