(if any), and cite ''AI Risk Management Framework'' in all correspondence.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For questions about this RFI contact: Mark Przybocki (*mark.przybocki@nist.gov*), U.S. National Institute of Standards and Technology, MS 20899, 100 Bureau Drive, Gaithersburg, MD 20899, telephone (301) 975–3347, email *AIframework@nist.gov.*

Direct media inquiries to NIST's Office of Public Affairs at (301) 975–2762.

Users of telecommunication devices for the deaf, or a text telephone, may call the Federal Relay Service, toll free at 1–800–877–8339.

Accessible Format: On request to the contact person listed above, NIST will make the RFI available in alternate formats, such as Braille or large print, upon request by persons with disabilities.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

NIST is extending the comment period announced in the July 29, 2021 RFI (86 FR 40810) through September 15, 2021. The agency's work on an AI RMF is consistent with recommendations by the National Security Commission on Artificial Intelligence [1] and the Plan for Federal Engagement in Developing AI Technical Standards and Related Tools.[2]

Congress has directed NIST to collaborate with the private and public sectors to develop a voluntary AI RMF.[3] The Framework is intended to help designers, developers, users and evaluators of AI systems better manage risks across the AI lifecycle.

Authority: 15 U.S.C. 272(b), (c), & (e); 15 U.S.C. 278g–3.

Alicia Chambers,

NIST Executive Secretariat.

[FR Doc. 2021–18108 Filed 8–23–21; 8:45 am]

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[1] National Security Commission on Artificial Intelligence, Final Report, *https://www.nscai.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Full-Report-Digital-1.pdf.*

[2] Plan for Federal Engagement in Developing AI Technical Standards and Related Tools, *https://www.nist.gov/system/files/documents/2019/08/10/ai_standards_fedengagement_plan_9aug2019.pdf.*

[3] H. Rept. 116–455—COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL, 2021, CRPT–116hrpt455.pdf (*congress.gov*), and Section 5301 of the National Artificial Intelligence Initiative Act of 2020 (Pub. L. 116–283), *https://www.congress.gov/116/bills/hr6395/BILLS-116hr6395enr.pdf.*

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Institute of Standards and Technology

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request. iEdison System.

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

ACTION: Notice of information collection, request for comment.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on proposed, and continuing information collections, which helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. The purpose of this notice is to allow for 60 days of public comment preceding submission of the collection to OMB.

DATES: To ensure consideration, comments regarding this proposed information collection must be received on or before October 25, 2021.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit written comments by mail to Elizabeth Reinhart, Management Analyst, National Institute of Standards and Technology, 100 Bureau Drive, Gaithersburg, MD 20899, *elizabeth.reinhart@nist.gov*, or *PRAcomments@doc.gov.* Please reference OMB Control Number 0693-xxxx in the subject line of your comments. Do not submit Confidential Business Information or otherwise sensitive or protected information.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or specific questions related to collection activities should be directed to Bethany Loftin, Interagency and iEdison Specialist, National Institute of Standards and Technology, 100 Bureau Drive Gaithersburg MD 20899, 301–975–0496, *bethany.loftin@nist.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The Bayh-Dole Act (35 U.S.C. 18) and its implementing regulations (37 CFR 401) allow for recipients of federal research funding (Contractors) to retain ownership of inventions developed under federal funding agreements. In exchange, the government retains certain rights to the invention, including a world-wide right to use by or on behalf of the U.S. government. The law also requires the Contractor to obtain permission for certain actions and fulfill reporting requirements including:

a. Initial reporting of invention.
b. Decision to retain title to invention.
c. Filing of patent protection.
d. Evidence of government support clause within patents.
e. Submission of a license confirming the government's rights.
f. Notice if the Contractor is going to discontinue the pursuit or continuance of patent protection.
g. Information related to the development and utilization of invention.
h. Permission to assign to a third party; and
i. Permission to waive domestic manufacturing requirements.

This information is used for a variety of reasons. It allows the government to identify technologies to which the government has rights to use without additional payment or licensing. This acts as a time and cost-saving mechanism to avoid unnecessary negotiating and payment. It also provides data for calculation of return on investment (ROI) from federal funding and identifies successful research programs. Thirdly, it allows the government the opportunity to timely protect inventions which the Contractor declines title or discontinues patent protection. Historically, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) has collected this information via their on-line portal, iEdison; however, the responsibility for this data collection will be taken over by NIST. Agencies that do not register with iEdison are required to collect this information independently.

II. Method of Collection

Information will be electronically collected through the online system iEdison.

III. Data

OMB Control Number: 0693–XXXX.
Form Number(s): None.
Type of Review: Regular submission, new information collection.
Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations; Not-for-profit institutions; State, Local, or Tribal government.
Estimated Number of Respondents: 3063.
Estimated Time per Response:
Invention Records: 6 hours.
Patent Records: 3.5 hours.
Utilization Records 4.5 hours.
Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:
Invention Records: 18,378 hours.
Patent Records: 10,720 hours.
Utilization Records: 13,783 hours.
Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: $0.

Respondent's Obligation: Mandatory.

Legal Authority: The Bayh-Dole Act (35 U.S.C. 18) and its implementing regulations (37 CFR 401).

IV. Request for Comments

We are soliciting public comments to permit the Department/Bureau to: (a) Evaluate whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper functions of the Department, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the time and cost burden for this proposed collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) Evaluate ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) Minimize the reporting burden on those who are to respond, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments that you submit in response to this notice are a matter of public record. We will include or summarize each comment in our request to OMB to approve this ICR. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you may ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Sheleen Dumas,

Department PRA Clearance Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Commerce Department.

[FR Doc. 2021–18196 Filed 8–23–21; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–13–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Institute of Standards and Technology

Robot Workcell Degradation Technology Exploration With the Manufacturing Extension Partnership National Network Consortium

AGENCY: National Institute of Standards and Technology, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of research consortium.

SUMMARY: The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), an agency of the United States Department of Commerce, in support of efforts to verify and validate robot workcell health monitoring methods for use in the manufacturing industry, is establishing the Robot Workcell Degradation Technology Exploration with the Manufacturing Extension Partnership National Network Consortium (''Consortium''). In addition to supporting verification and validation of robot workcell health monitoring methods, the consortium intends to provide NIST with the opportunity to transfer technology to the U.S. manufacturing sector through the Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) National Network™.

DATES: The Consortium's activities will commence on July 23rd, 2021 (''Commencement Date''). NIST will accept letters of interest from MEP Center teams to participate in this Consortium from prospective participants until December 1, 2023.

ADDRESSES: Completed letters of interest or requests for additional information about the Consortium can be directed via electronic mail to *RobotCRADA@nist.gov.*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: J'aime Maynard, CRADA Administrator, National Institute of Standards and Technology's Technology Partnerships Office, by mail to 100 Bureau Drive, Mail Stop 2200, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20899, by electronic mail to *Jaime.maynard@nist.gov,* or by telephone at (301) 975–8408.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Consortium efforts are expected to yield practical lessons learned and guidance on the deployment and usage of the NIST-developed test methodology and companion sensor along with producing quantitative data from the test method and the host robot workcells. This will enhance NIST's research verifying and validating methods to assess robot workcell health degradation in addition to accelerating technology transfer into the manufacturing industry.

NIST's Engineering Laboratory has developed a test method—Identification and Isolation of Robot Workcell Degradation—that has the potential to efficiently assess the change in accuracy within a robot workcell, including those used in manufacturing operations. The test method is paired with the NIST-developed Position Verification Sensor (PVS—patent pending) to yield pass/fail output when the test method is executed with the PVS in a robot workcell. The test method and PVS are designed such that the change in accuracy of the key insertion can be measured to desired tolerances. This capability addresses the challenge that it can be costly to determine if the health of a robot workcell has degraded before quality and/or productivity are impacted. The test method and sensor require verification and validation from industrial partners. The Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) National Network™, a public-private partnership with Centers in every U.S. state and Puerto Rico dedicated to serving small and medium-sized manufacturers, is uniquely positioned to enable this activity.

Each pilot study will be performed at a MEP Center-selected manufacturing facility. Proof of concept studies, prior to individual pilot studies, may be conducted at an MEP Center or at a chosen technology integrator/builder facility.

This CRADA Consortium involves the use of U.S. Government IP. NIST Invention entitled ''POSITION VERIFICATION SENSOR WITH DISCRETE OUTPUT'', US Patent Application 16/572,847, filed on September 17, 2019, will be the IP that is used in this collaboration.

This Consortium has specific objectives including:

(1) Pilot the test method and PVS in manufacturing facilities through guided deployments by state-based MEP Center teams to obtain practical feedback, including quantitative performance data, lessons learned, and deployment guidance, regarding the viability of the test method and sensor in robot workcells;

(2) During each pilot study, obtain information regarding the manufacturing operations, test method, and sensor performance including (a) data from the test method and sensor during its usage in a robot workcell health testing, (b) component-level data from the robot(s) that are interacting with the sensor, (c) process-level data captured from the overall workcell(s) that include the test method/sensor, (d) operational configuration information of the robot workcell including use case variants (*e.g.,* robot picks up boxes weighing 5 kg and 10 kg as opposed to picking up boxes of the same weight), (e) maintenance logs and activities that document faults and failures of the workcell along with specific maintenance that is performed, and (f) feedback from manufacturing personnel (*e.g.,* operators, maintenance personnel, plant managers, etc.);

(3) Enable MEP Center teams to explore the development of a service of the NIST test method and/or the commercialization of the new sensor technology to ultimately promote transfer to the manufacturing industry; and

(4) Enable MEP Center teams to promote a capability for manufacturers/