various government agencies, as well as to serve as a benchmark for the estimates compiled from the Monthly Retail Trade Report. Results will be made available, at the United States summary level, for selected retail trade industries approximately fourteen months after the end of the reference year. ARTS estimates are publicly released based on the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS), which has been widely adopted throughout both the public and private sectors.

As requested by the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), every five years, in survey years ending in ''2'' and ''7'', ARTS requests data on detailed operating expenses from firms. The last time ARTS collected detailed operating expenses was in 2018 for the 2017 survey year. The plan is to reinstate some of these questions in 2023 as part of the 2022 survey year ARTS data collection. For survey year 2020 (collected in 2021), the ARTS will also include improved language and ordering of the questions on the value of inventories and inventory valuation method to ensure a better understanding and response to the questions from respondents. Effective with survey year 2020 and consistent with the agency's goal of harmonizing content across all annual surveys as recommended by the National Academy of Sciences, ARTS will no longer collect accounts receivable data. Survey year 2019 estimates (to be released in February 2021) will be the final year that accounts receivable data are available to the public.

The Census Bureau published a pre-submission notice in the **Federal Register** on Monday, July 6, 2020 (Vol. 85, No. 129). The notice, which was located on pages 40199 and 40200, proposed additional questions on the ARTS related to the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on firms for survey year 2020. After internal discussions, the Census Bureau decided it will not include additional questions on this survey related to the impact that the coronavirus pandemic had on firms.

This request is for the clearance of two electronic worksheets, the SA–44D and SA–44T. From survey year 2016 through survey year 2019, there were eight electronic form types (SA–44, SA–44A, SA–44C, SA–44D, SA–44E, SA–44N SA–44S and SA–44T). Starting with survey year 2020 (which will be collected in 2021), there will only be the two electronic form types named above. Forms SA–44, SA–44A, SA–44C, SA–44E, SA–44N and SA–44S, are being combined with the remaining forms to reduce respondent burden by streamlining data collection operations on the number of forms received by a company. The two remaining worksheets will collect data from companies with and without merchandise lines, enable us to collect information on a NAICS basis, and to request similar data items. Variations in the electronic worksheets are needed to address the size of the firm, kind-of-business, or data items requested.

The Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) uses the data to estimate the change in the private inventories component of gross domestic product (GDP) and output in both the benchmark and annual input-output (I–O) accounts and GDP by industry. Data on sales taxes are also used to prepare estimates of GDP by industry and to derive industry output for the I–O accounts. Data on detailed operating expenses are collected on this survey quinquennially and used to produce national estimates of value added, gross output, and intermediate inputs, and serve as a benchmark for the annual industry accounts, which provide the control totals for the GDP-by-state accounts.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics uses the data as input to its Producer Price Indexes and in developing productivity measurements. Private businesses use the estimates in computing business activity indexes.

Other government agencies and businesses use the data to satisfy a variety of public and business needs such as economic market analysis, company performance, and forecasting future demands.

*Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit organizations.

*Frequency:* Annually.

*Respondent's Obligation:* Mandatory.

*Legal Authority:* Title 13, United States Code, Sections 131 and 182.

This information collection request may be viewed at *www.reginfo.gov.* Follow the instructions to view the Department of Commerce collections currently under review by OMB. Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be submitted within 30 days of the publication of this notice on the following website *www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain.* Find this particular information collection by selecting ''Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments'' or by using the search function and entering either the title of the collection or the OMB Control Number 0607–0013.

**Sheleen Dumas,**

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

[FR Doc. 2020–22641 Filed 10–9–20; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510–07–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Foreign-Trade Zones Board

**[Order No. 2106]**

### Approval of Expansion of Subzone 61T; Plaza Warehousing & Realty Corporation; Caguas, Puerto Rico

Pursuant to its authority under the Foreign-Trade Zones Act of June 18, 1934, as amended (19 U.S.C. 81a–81u), the Foreign-Trade Zones Board (the Board) adopts the following Order:

*Whereas*, the Foreign-Trade Zones (FTZ) Act provides for ''. . . the establishment . . . of foreign-trade zones in ports of entry of the United States, to expedite and encourage foreign commerce, and for other purposes,'' and authorizes the Foreign-Trade Zones Board to grant to qualified corporations the privilege of establishing foreign-trade zones in or adjacent to U.S. Customs and Border Protection ports of entry;

*Whereas*, the Board's regulations (15 CFR part 400) provide for the establishment of subzones for specific uses;

*Whereas*, the Department of Economic Development and Commerce, grantee of Foreign-Trade Zone 61, has made application to the Board to expand Subzone 61T on behalf of Plaza Warehousing & Realty Corporation to include additional acreage in Caguas, Puerto Rico (FTZ Docket B–46–2020, docketed July 20, 2020);

*Whereas*, notice inviting public comment has been given in the **Federal Register** (85 FR 45373, July 28, 2020) and the application has been processed pursuant to the FTZ Act and the Board's regulations; and,

*Whereas*, the Board adopts the findings and recommendations of the examiner's memorandum, and finds that the requirements of the FTZ Act and the Board's regulations are satisfied;

*Now, therefore*, the Board hereby approves the expansion of Subzone 61T at the facility of Plaza Warehousing & Realty Corporation, located in Caguas, Puerto Rico, as described in the application and **Federal Register** notice, subject to the FTZ Act and the Board's regulations, including Section 400.13.

Dated: October 6, 2020.

**Jeffrey I. Kessler,**

*Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance, Alternate Chairman, Foreign-Trade Zones Board.*

[FR Doc. 2020–22541 Filed 10–9–20; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510–DS–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Institute of Standards and Technology

### Flow Cytometry Standards 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 develop standards for regenerative medicine and advanced therapies, is establishing the Flow Cytometry Standards Consortium (''Consortium''). The Consortium will bring together stakeholders to identify and address measurement and standards needs related to flow cytometry used in the characterization and testing of cell and gene therapies. The Consortium efforts are intended to develop measurement solutions and standards to improve measurement confidence, establish measurement traceability, and enable comparability in flow cytometry measurements. Participation fees will be at least $25,000 annually or in-kind contributions of equivalent value. Participants will be required to sign a Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA).

**DATES:** The Consortium's activities will commence on December 1, 2020 (''Commencement Date''). NIST will accept letters of interest to participate in this Consortium on an ongoing basis.

**ADDRESSES:** Completed letters of interest or requests for additional information about the Consortium can be directed via mail to the Consortium Manager, Dr. Lili Wang, Biosystems and Biomaterials Division of NIST's Material Measurement Laboratory, 100 Bureau Drive, Mail Stop 8312, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20899, or via electronic mail to *flowcytometry@nist.gov,* or by telephone at (301) 975–2447.

**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:** Advances in cell and gene-based therapeutics as well as other regenerative medicine products have increased the need for high quality, robust, and validated measurements for cell characterization. Flow cytometry, including imaging cytometry, has emerged as an important platform due to its ability to rapidly and simultaneously characterize heterogeneous cell populations and subcellular analytes. For example, flow cytometry has been critical for establishing identity, purity, and potency for Chimeric Antigen Receptor (CAR)-T cell manufacturing; and associated data to support the approval of Biological License Applications (BLA) by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the approval by the European Medicines Agency (EMA). In addition, multiparameter flow cytometric measurements are routinely carried out in vaccine, drug and cancer research, clinical diagnosis, and immunotherapies. However, challenges remain with respect to measurement confidence and comparability of measurement results from different instrument platforms, locations, and over time, hindering critical decision-making based on flow cytometry data in research and clinical settings.

NIST has extensively engaged with stakeholders to identify measurement needs. These include hosting joint workshops with the U.S. FDA and with the International Society for Advancement of Cytometry (ISAC) that brought together experts and stakeholders from industry, academia and government to discuss unique challenges for cell and gene therapy. The workshops identified three common, pre-competitive measurement needs: (1) High-quality reference materials, (2) confidence in the procedures from standardization/inter-laboratory studies, and (3) uncertainty associated with specimen quality and/or pre-analytical processes.

This Consortium aims to develop measurement solutions and standards for flow cytometry, including improving measurement confidence by establishing traceability and assisting measurement comparability. Measurement applications to be addressed may include the use of flow cytometry for the characterization and testing for cell identity, purity, count, activity, potency, and biomarker expression. The working cell types will be determined based on the collective input of the Consortium members and can start with common immunotherapy cell types, *e.g.,* T cells, iPSCs, and NK cells. To fulfill the objectives of the Consortium, associated critical reagents, such as antibodies, plasmids, and viral vectors pertaining to the development of the high-quality measurements and reference materials, will be characterized using orthogonal measurement capabilities, *e.g.,* ddPCR, qPCR, NGS, Flow-FISH, nanoflow cytometry, and mass spectrometry, most of which are available at NIST as a part of the NIST Advanced Therapy Program. NIST may also leverage current capabilities such as the state-of-the-art flow cytometry and automation capabilities and expertise, ERF measurement service, blood cell characterization, cell counting expertise, as well as existing collaborations with calibration bead and cytometer manufacturers, international metrological institutions, and Standards Development Organizations (SDOs) such as CLSI to advance the goals of this Consortium.

The Consortium is expected to form several Working Groups to continuously identify and address needs and gaps in quantitative cytometry through workshops, public meetings, and other collaborative efforts. The scope of Working Groups can include:

(1) Equivalent Number of Reference Fluorophores (ERF) Measurement Service:

a. Develop reference standards including reference materials, reference data, reference methods, and measurement service for assigning the ERF to calibration microspheres and assessing the associated uncertainties and utilities. This is the first step towards reliable quantitative measurements in flow cytometry.

(2) Reference Material Selection and Design:

a. Develop candidate reference standards including biological reference materials, reference data, reference methods;

b. Evaluate common reagents and control materials including various types of compensation controls;

c. Design and carry out interlaboratory testing to characterize and evaluate the reference materials using multiple methods, including orthogonal methods.

(3) Assay and Protocol Selection and Design:

a. Establish an inventory of existing protocols, shared data, existing standards;

b. Generate standard operating procedures/methods for cross platform assay standardization and data analysis;

c. Test the robustness of assays and associated uncertainties.

No proprietary information will be shared as part of the Consortium.