

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 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910; phone (301) 713-2289; fax (301) 713-0376; and

Northwest Region, NMFS, 7600 Sand Point Way NE, BIN C15700, Bldg. 1, Seattle, WA 98115-0700; phone (206) 526-6150; fax (206) 526-6426.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Ruth Johnson or Tammy Adams, (301) 713-2289.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On July 31, 2001, notice was published in the *Federal Register* (66 FR 39493) that a request for a scientific research permit to take harbor porpoise had been submitted by the above-named organization. The requested permit has been issued under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), and the Regulations Governing the Taking and Importing of Marine Mammals (50 CFR part 216).

Dated: September 4, 2001.

**Eugene T. Nitta,**

*Acting Chief, Permits and Documentation Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 01-22641 Filed 9-7-01; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-S**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Technology Administration

#### Announcement of Public Meeting on Existing Public and Private High-Tech Workforce Training Programs in the United States

**AGENCY:** Technology Administration, Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that a public meeting will be held on Tuesday November 20, 2001, 10:00 a.m. in the Technology Administration, Technology Center, U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4813. Sections 115(a) and 115(b) of the American Competitiveness in the Twenty-First Century Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-313) require the Secretary of Commerce to conduct a study and prepare a report to Congress on existing public and private high-tech workforce training programs in the United States. In connection with this study and report, this public meeting is intended to provide an opportunity for individuals to offer comments on information technology (IT) workforce training.

The study and report will focus on the education and training paths and programs through which workers prepare for highly skilled IT jobs, and maintain the skills needed in an ever-changing IT environment. The study and report will explore: IT worker demand in terms of education and skill requirements, employer role in IT worker training, the IT education and training program landscape, including what education and skills various models of IT worker training program provide; and key elements for program success. Interested parties may include employers, IT workers, education/training providers, state and local governments, and area/regional training partnerships.

**DATES:** Tuesday, November 20, 2001, 10 a.m.

**ADDRESSES:** Technology Center, Technology Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW., Room 4813, Washington, DC 20230.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Individuals who wish to attend this public meeting should contact Carol Ann Meares, Technology Administrations, U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4823, Washington, DC 20230. Telephone (202) 482-0940, or e-mail [cmeares@ta.doc.gov](mailto:cmeares@ta.doc.gov).

Dated: September 4, 2001.

**Bruce Mehlman,**

*Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Technology Policy.*

[FR Doc. 01-22632 Filed 9-7-01; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-18-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Technology Administration

**[Docket No. 010626163-1163-01]**

#### Notice, Request for Comments on Existing Public and Private High-Tech Workforce Training Programs in the United States

**AGENCY:** Technology Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce.

**ACTION:** Request for comments on existing public and private high-tech workforce training programs in the United States for Congressionally-mandated study and report to the Congress by the Secretary of Commerce.

**SUMMARY:** On behalf of the Secretary of Commerce, the Technology Administration (TA) invites interested parties to comment on existing public and private high-tech workforce training programs in the United States. Sections 115(a) and 115(b) of the American

Competitiveness in the Twenty-first Century Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-313) require the Secretary of Commerce to conduct a study and issue a report on this subject. In connection with this study and report, this Federal Register notice is intended to solicit comments and reply comments from the public in paper or electronic form. All written comments submitted in response to this notice will be posted on the TA website ([www.ta.doc.gov/ittraining](http://www.ta.doc.gov/ittraining)), and may be used in a report to Congress.

**DATES:** Interested parties are invited to submit comments no later than November 9, 2001.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments may be mailed to Carol Ann Meares, Office Technology Policy, Technology Administration, Room 4823 HCHB, 1401 Constitution Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20230.

Paper submissions should include an electronic copy of the comments on a diskette in ASCII, WordPerfect (please specify version) or Microsoft Word (please specify version) format. Diskettes should be labeled with the name and organizational affiliation of the filer, and the name and version of the word processing program used to create the document.

In the alternative, comments may be submitted electronically to the following electronic mail address: [techtraining@ta.doc.gov](mailto:techtraining@ta.doc.gov). Comments submitted as attachments to electronic mail should be submitted in one or more of the formats specified above.

Another alternative method for providing comment is an Internet-based form that can be completed and submitted online. The URL for this notice is [www.ta.doc.gov/ittraining/form](http://www.ta.doc.gov/ittraining/form).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Carol Ann Meares, Office Technology Policy, telephone: (202) 482-0940; or electronic mail: [cmeares@ta.doc.gov](mailto:cmeares@ta.doc.gov). Media inquiries should be directed to the Office of Public Affairs, Technology Administration, at (202) 482-8321.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

#### I. Background

The development and application of new information technologies across virtually every segment of the American economy has resulted in rapid, sustained growth in demand for highly skilled information technology (IT) workers. Accordingly, between 1983 and 1998, the number of high-skilled IT workers increased from 719,000 to 2,084,000—an increase of 190 percent, more than six times the overall U.S. job growth rate during this period.

Rapid growth is expected to continue into the foreseeable future. The