

season, it has been determined that an additional time is needed to allow for additional recruitment and marketing in support of the mission. Applications will be now be accepted through March 29, 2013 (and after that date if space remains and scheduling constraints permit), interested U.S. healthcare firms and trade organizations which have not already submitted an application are encouraged to do so as soon as possible.

Amendments

1. For the reasons stated above, the Timeframe for Recruitment and Applications section of the Notice of the *U.S. Healthcare Trade Mission to Russia* published at 77 FR 77032, December 31, 2012, is amended to read as follows:

Timeframe for Recruitment and Applications

Mission recruitment will be conducted in an open and public manner, including publication in the **Federal Register** (<http://www.gpoaccess.gov/fr>), posting on ITA's trade mission calendar—<http://export.gov/trademissions>—and other Internet web sites, press releases to general and trade media, direct mail, broadcast fax, notices by industry trade associations and other multiplier groups, and publicity at industry meetings, symposia, conferences, and trade shows. Recruitment will conclude no later than Friday, March 29, 2013. The U.S. Department of Commerce will review applications and make selection decisions on a rolling basis until the maximum of fifteen participants is reached. We will inform all applicants of selection decisions as soon as possible after the applications are reviewed. Applications received after the March 29nd deadline will be considered only if space and scheduling constraints permit

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Jessica Arnold, Commercial Service Trade Missions Program, Tel: 202-482-2026, Fax: 202-482-9000, Email: jessica.arnold@trade.gov.

Elnora Moye,

Trade Program Assistant.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

U.S. Healthcare Trade Mission to Turkey

AGENCY: International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The United States Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration.

Mission Description

The United States Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration, U.S. and Foreign Commercial Service (CS) is organizing an Executive-Led U.S.—Turkey Healthcare Trade Mission to Ankara, Istanbul, and Izmir on May 4–8, 2014.

The trade mission to this Department-priority market follows successful Renewable Energy/Energy Efficiency and Aerospace/Defense trade missions in December 2011 and December 2012 respectively.

Turkey has a compelling economic success story to tell and its healthcare sector has followed suit. 2011 was a record year for U.S. exports to Turkey and 2012 is expected to be a close second. Moreover, the Government of Turkey has set an ambitious goal of becoming a top ten economy by 2023; Turkey is currently at number 17. The U.S.—Turkey Healthcare Trade Mission is intended support growing healthcare services and technologies demand in Turkey. The Mission will focus on high-potential healthcare sub-sectors and opportunities identified through our market research. We expect the trade mission delegation to include representatives from a variety of U.S. medical equipment and device manufacturers and healthcare services providers. The mission will introduce these suppliers to end-users and prospective partners whose needs and capabilities are targeted to each U.S. participant's strengths. Trade mission participants will have the opportunity to interact extensively with Commercial Service (CS) Turkey officers and specialists and key players in the industry to discuss industry developments, opportunities, and sales strategies.

Commercial Setting

Turkey is at the crossroads of Europe, the Middle East, and North Africa. With a population close to 80 million people, it has a significantly higher population growth rate compared than the U.K.,

France, Italy, and Germany. Median age is 29 years with 67% of the population between the ages of 15 to 64. Average life expectancy is 75 years. It has a fast-growing middle class that is willing to spend more on quality goods and services, and a democratically elected government which has historically invested in raising living standards. Turkey's GDP tripled in the last decade and is widely considered as one of the fastest growing economies in the world today.

Turkey has a public healthcare system with a \$20 billion federal budget for 2013—an increase of 19% over 2012. Healthcare budget allocation in the national budget jumped from 2.25% in 2002 to 4.4% in 2012 while per capita healthcare spending grew from \$330 to \$780 in the same period. With the OECD per capita spending average at \$2,386 in 2012, there is significant growth potential in this market thanks to Turkey's growing income and government programs. The Turkish government has made healthcare access and quality a priority. To improve healthcare access for its citizens, Turkey, in the last decade, invested \$4.7 billion in healthcare construction. This resulted in a 172% increase in the number of hospital visits since 2002. Now the focus has evolved to quality care as state hospitals compete with privately run institutions. The government has unveiled a PPP (Public Private Partnership) initiative where 29 integrated health campuses will be built. A total of 45,000 beds will be integrated into the Turkish healthcare system through this model. Sixty percent of these projects have either been tendered or contracted, however equipment/services packages will only be finalized in 2014–2015.

Specific Opportunities for Trade Mission Delegates

Today, the medical equipment and supplies market is a \$2.2 billion industry, placing Turkey in the worldwide marketplace for healthcare goods. By 2015, the medical equipment and supplies market in Turkey is projected to reach \$3 billion as the above-mentioned integrated health campuses are built. These projects lend opportunities to healthcare architectural and engineering firms, medical device and supplies manufacturers as well as hospital operators.

The Ministry of Health is the largest purchaser in the healthcare market in Turkey. The Table below shows the distribution of healthcare facilities by type of ownership:

Type	2002				2011				Growth percent	
	Number of hospitals	Percent	Number of hospital beds	Percent	Number of hospitals	Percent	Number of hospital beds	Percent	Number of hospitals	Number of hospital beds
Ministry of Health	774	67	107,394	65	840	58	121,297	62	8.5	12
University	50	4	26,341	16	65	4	34,802	18	30	32
Private ..	271	23	12,387	8	503	35	31,648	16	85	155
Other	61	6	18,349	12	45	3	6,757	4	-26	-63
Total	1,156	164,471	1,453	194,504	26	19

The growth in the number of healthcare facilities, the patients accessing healthcare services, and the renewed focus on quality care has resulted in higher demand for advanced

medical devices like MRI, CT, ECHO, Ultrasound and Doppler Ultrasonography. U.S. firms are particularly competitive in these sectors, thus our trade mission focus.

Growth in the number of devices in Turkey's in-patient healthcare facilities from 2002 to 2011 is impressive:

Type of device	2002	2011	Growth (percent)
MRI	58	781	1,247
CT	323	1,088	237
ECHO	259	1,181	356
Ultrasound	1,005	3,775	276
Doppler Ultrasonography	681	2,091	207

Medical services for foreign patients, also sustains growth in the Turkish medical equipment and healthcare markets. It is estimated that Turkish private and public establishments will serve one million foreign patients by 2015. Turkey attracts a lot of patients from the Middle East, North Africa and Europe. These patients mainly visit Turkish hospitals for bone marrow transplantation, cardiovascular surgery, cyber knife and gamma knife treatments, ophthalmology, plastic surgery, dental services and oncology. Again, U.S. exporters are highly competitive in these sectors.

As a result of this externally and internally driven transformation in the Turkish health sector, we believe there are opportunities for U.S. manufacturers for the following medical devices –

- Advanced pre-screening and diagnostics devices,
- Advanced point-of-care devices,
- Advanced surgical devices,
- Remote patient monitoring devices,
- Cancer treatment devices,
- Clinical chemistry and laboratory devices,
- Dental devices,

- Implants used in orthopedics and traumatology
- Ultrasound and Imaging equipment
- E-health and Mhealth systems and
- Telemedicine systems

Mission Goals

Our mission goal is to leverage our detailed understanding of the Turkish healthcare market and match its demand with select U.S. suppliers to generate sales on an immediate or short-term basis. For the medium and longer term, the goal is to educate participants on the healthcare-related commercial, political and regulatory environment in Turkey in order to arm them with the ability to sustain and expand their business in Turkey and around the region.

Mission Scenario

The trade mission will go to Ankara, Istanbul, and Izmir May 4–8, 2014. Recognizing Turkey's regional importance, CS Bulgaria and State Partner Posts, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan will join the mission on the last day to meet with

U.S. participants looking for regional opportunities.

Trade mission members will meet with officials from the Ministry of Health and Social Security Agency, and will take part in business matchmaking appointments with private-sector entities. In addition, they will attend an Embassy briefing and networking events with industry and business associations, and participate in two site visits.

Participation in the mission will include the following:

- Pre-travel briefings/webinar on subjects ranging from business practices in Turkey to industry opportunities;
- Pre-screened, targeted 1–1 meetings with potential partners, distributors, or local industry contacts in Ankara, Izmir and Istanbul;
- Briefing by the U.S. Embassy Country Team;
- Transportation to/from Ambassador residence and all official networking events.
- Participation in industry networking receptions;
- Optional add-on for meetings with potential customers from Bulgaria, Caucasus and Central Asia.

PROPOSED TIMETABLE

Sunday, May 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trade Mission Participants Arrive in Ankara. • Sponsored reception.
Monday, May 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome Briefing by U.S. Ambassador and U.S. Embassy Country Team.

PROPOSED TIMETABLE—Continued

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation by the Ministry of Health on Turkish healthcare system and Social Security Agency on healthcare reimbursement system; • Delegation splits into groups. Customized briefing by Ministry of Health officials for each group's specific line of business; • Hosted Lunch for mission participants. • One-on-one business matchmaking appointments. • Ambassador's Reception.
Tuesday, May 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Morning flight to Izmir. • No-host lunch. • One-on-one business matchmaking appointments. • Sponsored dinner—Bay Cruise.
Wednesday, May 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Morning flight to Istanbul. • Site visit of a Turkish private hospital (includes sponsored lunch at hospital). • Site visit at a Turkish public hospital. • No-host dinner.
Thursday, May 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full-day one-on-one business matchmaking appointments. • Evening networking event dinner.
Friday, May 9 (Optional)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One-on-one business matchmaking appointments with delegations from Partner Posts (as needed). • Trade Mission ends.

Participation Requirements

All parties interested in participating in the Executive-Led U.S.—Turkey Healthcare Trade Mission must complete and submit an application for consideration by the Department of Commerce. All applicants will be evaluated on their ability to meet certain conditions and best satisfy the selection criteria as outlined below. The mission is open on a first come first served basis up to 18–22 qualified U.S. companies. Post can host a maximum of 22 individual firms, as such, we will vet applicants on the basis of their consistency with the selection criteria listed below.

Fees and Expenses

After a company has been selected to participate on the mission, a payment to the Department of Commerce in the form of a participation fee is required. The participation fee for one principal representative will be \$ 4,665 for large firms and \$3,553 for a small or medium-sized enterprise (SME).^{*} The fee for each additional firm representative (large firm or SME) is \$ 750. Expenses for lodging, some meals, incidentals, and travel to/from Turkey and flights in Turkey will be the responsibility of each mission participant.

Conditions for Participation

- An applicant must submit a completed and signed mission

application and supplemental application materials, including adequate information on the company's products and/or services, primary market objectives, and goals for participation.

- Each applicant must also certify that the products and services it seeks to export through the mission are either produced in the United States, or, if not, marketed under the name of a U.S. firm and have at least fifty-one percent U.S. content.

Selection Criteria for Participation

Selection will be based on the following criteria:

- Suitability of a company's products or services to the mission's goals.
- Applicant's potential for business in Turkey, including likelihood of exports resulting from the trade mission.
- Consistency of the applicant's goals and objectives with the stated scope of the trade mission.

Any partisan political activities (including political contributions) of an applicant are entirely irrelevant to the selection process. Referrals from political organizations and any information, including on the application, containing references to political contributions or other partisan political activities will be excluded from the application and will not be considered during the selection process.

Timeframe for Recruitment and Applications

Mission recruitment will be conducted in an open and public manner, including publication in the **Federal Register** (<https://www.federalregister.gov/>), posting on ITA's business development mission calendar (<http://export.gov/trademissions>) and other Internet web sites, press releases to general and trade

media, direct mail, broadcast fax, notices by industry trade associations and other multiplier groups, and publicity at industry meetings, symposia, conferences, and trade shows.

Recruitment will begin immediately and conclude no later than Monday, December 16, 2013. The Department of Commerce will evaluate applications and inform applicants of selection in three group vettings, Group A, Group B, and Group C respectively.

We will vet all of the applications that are eligible at the time of each vetting as a group on the three dates listed below:

Group A—August 15, 2013

Group B—October 14, 2013

Group C—December 16, 2013

Applications received after the December 16 deadline will be considered only if space and scheduling constraints permit.

How To Apply

Applications can be downloaded from the business development mission Web site (<http://export.gov/trademissions/turkeyhealthcare2014>) or can be obtained by contacting the list of contacts (below). Completed applications should be submitted to Global Trade Programs at (email: turkeyhealthcare2014@trade.gov or fax: 202–482–9000).

Contacts**U.S. Commercial Service, Trade Events Program**

Ms. Jessica Arnold, International Trade Specialist, Tel: 202–482–2026, Email: Jessica.Arnold@trade.gov.

U.S. Commercial Service Turkey

Mr. Manoj Desai, Commercial Officer, Email: Manoj.Desai@trade.gov.

^{*} An SME is defined as a firm with 500 or fewer employees or that otherwise qualifies as a small business under SBA regulations (see http://www.sba.gov/services/contracting_opportunities/sizestandardstopping/index.html). Parent companies, affiliates, and subsidiaries will be considered when determining business size. The dual pricing schedule reflects the Commercial Service's user fee schedule that became effective May 1, 2008 (for additional information see <http://www.export.gov/newsletter/march2008/initiatives.html>).

Ms. Ebru Olcay, Commercial Specialist,
Email: Ebru.Olcay@trade.gov.

U.S. Commercial Service Turkey

55 New Sudbury Street, Suite 1826A,
Boston, MA 02203, Tel: 617 565–
4301, Fax: 617 565–4313, Email:
Michelle.Ouellette@trade.gov.

American Consulate General

Ucsehitler Sok. Kaplicalar Mevkii No: 2,
34460 Istinye, Istanbul, Turkey, Tel:
(90) 212 335–9000, Fax: (90) 212 335–
9223.

U.S. Commercial Service Medical Technologies Team

Michelle Ouellette, Senior International
Trade Specialist, U.S. Department of
Commerce, U.S. Export Assistance
Center—Massachusetts.

Elnora Moye,

Trade Program Assistant.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Institute of Standards and Technology

International Code Council: The Update Process for the International Codes and Standards

AGENCY: National Institute of Standards
and Technology, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The International Code
Council (ICC), promulgator of the
International Codes and Standards,
maintains a process for updating the
entire family of International Codes
based on receipt of proposals from
interested individuals and organizations
involved in the construction industry as
well as the general public. The codes are
updated every three years.

The purpose of this notice is to
increase public participation in the
system used by ICC to develop and
maintain its codes and standards. The
publication of this notice by the
National Institute of Standards and
Technology (NIST) on behalf of ICC is
being undertaken as a public service;
NIST does not necessarily endorse,
approve, or recommend any of the codes
or standards referenced in the notice.

DATES: The date of the next Committee
Action Hearings is April 21–30, 2013 in
Dallas, TX at the Sheraton Dallas Hotel.
This will be followed by the Public
Comment Hearings October 2, 2013 in
Atlantic City, New Jersey at the Atlantic
City Convention Center.

ADDRESSES: Committee Action Hearings
in Dallas, TX at the Sheraton Dallas
Hotel and the Public Comment Hearings
in Atlantic City, New Jersey at the
Atlantic City Convention Center.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mike Pfeiffer, PE, Deputy SVP,
Technical Services, 4051 West
Flossmoor Road, Country Club Hills,
Illinois 60478; Telephone 888–ICC–
SAFE, Extension 4338. David F.
Alderman, NIST, 100 Bureau Drive, MS
2100, Gaithersburg, MD 20899, email:
david.alderman@nist.gov or by phone at
301–975–4019.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

ICC produces the only family of Codes
and Standards that are comprehensive,
coordinated, and necessary to regulate
the built environment. Federal agencies
frequently use these codes and
standards as the basis for developing
Federal regulations concerning new and
existing construction.

This is the second year of ICC's three
year cycle. The fifteen International
Codes are updated on a three year cycle
where each code is updated in a specific
year. In this current three year cycle, 5
codes were updated in 2012, 9 will be
updated in 2013 and one will be
updated in 2014. Completion of this
cycle results in the 2015 edition of the
International Codes which are
scheduled to be published in the first
half of 2014. For detailed information
on the 2012/2013/2014 Cycle, including
a list of codes to be updated and in
which cycle, go to: http://www.iccsafe.org/cs/codes/Web_pages/cycle.aspx.

The Code Development Process is
initiated when proposals from
interested persons, supported by written
data, views, or arguments are solicited
and published in the Code Change
Agenda document. This document is
posted a minimum of 30 days in
advance of the Committee Action
Hearing serves as the agenda.

At the Committee Action Hearing, the
ICC Code Development Committee
considers testimony on every proposal
and acts on each one individually
(Approval, Disapproval, or Approval as
Modified). The results are published in
a report entitled the Report of the
Committee Action Hearing, which
identifies the disposition of each
proposal and the reason for the
committee's action. Anyone wishing to
submit a comment on the committee's
action, expressing support or opposition
to the action, is provided the
opportunity to do so. Comments
received are published and distributed
in a document called the Public

Comment Agenda which serves as the
agenda for the second hearing called the
Public Comment Hearing. As part of
ICC's Governmental Consensus Process,
at the Public Comment Hearing, only
ICC's Governmental Members are
permitted to vote as they have no vested
interest other than health, safety and
welfare in the enforcement of the code.
Proposals which are approved at the
Public Comment Hearing are
incorporated in the subsequent Edition,
with the next cycle starting with the
submittal deadline for proposals.

International Code Council, 4051 W
Flossmoor Road, Country Club Hills,
Illinois 60478; or download a copy from
the ICC Web site noted previously.

The International Codes and
Standards consist of the following:

ICC Codes

International Building Code.
International Energy Conservation
Code.
International Existing Building Code.
International Fire Code.
International Fuel Gas Code.
International Green Construction
Code.
International Mechanical Code.
ICC Performance Code for Buildings
and Facilities.
International Plumbing Code.
International Private Sewage Disposal
Code.
International Property Maintenance
Code.
International Residential Code.
International Swimming Pool and Spa
Code.
International Wildland-Urban
Interface Code.
International Zoning Code.

ICC Standards

ICC A 117.1: Accessible and Usable
Buildings and Facilities.

ICC 300: Standard on Bleachers,
Folding and Telescopic Seating and
Grandstands.

ICC 400: Standard on the Design and
Construction of Log Structures.

ICC 500: ICC/NSSA Standard on the
Design and Construction of Storm
Shelters.

ICC 600: Standard for Residential
Construction in High Wind Regions.

ICC 700: National Green Building
Standard

The maintenance process for ICC
Standards such as ICC A117.1 follows a
similar process of soliciting proposals,
committee action, public comment and
ultimately the update and publication of
the standard. ICC's Standard
development process meets ANSI
requirements for standard's
development.