Docket Number: 94-153. Applicant: University of Washington, Department of Zoology, NJ-15, Seattle, WA 98195. Instrument: Electron Microscope, Model CM 100. Manufacturer: Philips, The Netherlands. Intended Use: The instrument will be used by three departments to conduct various studies of biological and other organisms. These studies will include by are not limited to the following: (1) analysis of membrane biogenesis induced by increased HMG-CoA reductase levels, (2) analysis of embryonic and regenerative neural development in insects, (3) several studies of 5S RNA-TFIIIA and 42S RNP particles in the oocyte, (4) research of extracts from purified germ cells and mouse mutants, (5) assessment of mechanisms that coordinate cell cycle functions, (6) questions concerning the morphogenesis of glial cells and neurons, (7) determination of whether strain non-uniformities arise in muscle cells subject to rapid length perturbations, and (8) tracking of cells in mitotic specific domains. Application Accepted by Commissioner of Customs: January 10, 1995.

Docket Number: 95-002. Applicant: Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, Water Quality Lab, 700 Moreno Avenue, La Verne, CA 91750. Instrument: Mass Spectrometer, Model Autospec. Manufacturer: Fisons, United Kingdom. Intended Use: The instrument will be used to identify unknown organic compounds that are formed at very low concentrations in drinking water during disinfection processes and to study the precursors that when disinfected form the disinfection byproducts. While the main use of the instrument will be in research applications, it will be used periodically for the education and training of postdoctoral assistants and undergraduate cooperative-education students who are working on disinfection by-product studies. Application Accepted by Commissioner of Customs: January 6, 1995.

Pamela Woods,

Acting Director, Statutory Import Programs Staff.

[FR Doc. 95–2998 Filed 2–6–95; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 3510–DS–F

National Institute of Standards and Technology

[Docket No. 941244-4344]

International Standards and Trade Support Program

AGENCY: National Institute of Standards and Technology, Commerce. **ACTION:** Notice.

SUMMARY: The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) plans to set up a service to help U.S. industry avoid or overcome non-tariff, technical barriers to trade in many foreign markets. Such barriers to trade are caused by normative standards, measurement standards, conformity testing, and related practices. NIST has operated such a program with great success in Saudi Arabia for the past four years. NIST plans to (1) support ITA, USTR and voluntary standards organizations such as ISO, IEC, ANSI, and to cooperate with regulatory agencies, certifiers, etc.; (2) place NIST standards experts in critical markets; (3) train and place local-hire NIST standards representatives in developing markets; (4) develop close contacts with key authorities in foreign markets through training, etc.; and (5) align its program with the International Trade Administration's, where the Foreign Commercial Counselors at U.S. Embassies assist U.S. companies to overcome specific standards-related non-tariff trade barriers. NIST is interested in industry cooperation and invites responses about countries and types of technical barriers to trade to be addressed.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Please address all communications to Dr. Peter L.M. Heydemann, Director, Technology Services, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, MD 20899; phone (301) 975–4500; FAX (301) 975–2183.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: NIST plans to address problems in the European Union, the ten "big emerging markets" (BEMs) defined by Under Secretary Jeffrey Garten, Russia and certain of the Newly Independent States (NIS). The ten BEMs are Mexico, China, Indonesia, India, South Korea, Argentina, Brazil, South Africa, Turkey, and Poland.

The strategy of the program will be to develop close, personal contacts between NIST staff and key officials in foreign markets who can influence standards-related non-tariff trade barriers. These contacts will help NIST to negotiate changes from a basis of mutual trust and confidence. One means

to develop these contacts are training/ information courses that NIST will present in the United States and in foreign markets. NIST will involve a variety of federal authorities, ANSI and other voluntary standards organizations, State Weights and Measures offices, and selected private enterprises in these efforts. NIST standards experts and standards representatives placed in the foreign markets will follow up and help to further develop and maintain these contacts. Their range of contacts will be different but complementary to that of the Foreign Commercial Counselors. They will be able to collect additional information on these markets, on planned standards and test methods, and on newly appointed officials.

The purpose of the program is to enhance U.S. exports by assisting U.S. manufacturers to overcome or avoid standards-related, non-tariff trade barriers (NTBs), especially technical barriers to trade (TBTs), and by facilitating negotiation of mutual recognition agreements for conformance testing. TBTs, whether or not established intentionally by our trading partners, limit U.S. manufacturers' access to export markets and often cause large expenses to exporters when testing of conformance to the standards of one or more receiving countries is required. when tests need to be performed in the buyer's country, or, more generally, through the inevitable delay connected with conformance testing and certification. TBTs result from disparities between standards and conformity assessment practices in the United States and in its trading partners:

Foreign national, regional, or international standards may not reflect the latest U.S. technology and technical practice. In some cases, this is due to lack of U.S. influence in the development of international standards, where European practice prevails in certain technical areas due to the extensive participation of European Authorities and, in some cases, due to bloc voting by European national standards bodies. In many cases, the United States has had limited opportunity to influence standards development of importing countries or regions.

Differences in testing and certification requirements in other countries frequently pose obstacles to U.S. exports. If Mutual Recognition Agreements (MRA) for conformance testing are not in place and test data generated in the United States are not accepted in a foreign country, U.S. exporters must duplicate costly and time-consuming approval and certification procedures in the foreign country to meet regulatory requirements for product acceptance. Agreements on the mutual recognition of conformance testing are often difficult to obtain and even more difficult to enforce. Foreign standards and conformity assessment rules are often complex and detailed, and