

applicant have been convicted of or are presently facing criminal charges such as fraud, theft, perjury, or other matters which significantly reflect on the applicant's management, honesty, or financial integrity.

False Statements: A false statement on an application is grounds for denial or termination of funds, and grounds for possible punishment by a fine or imprisonment as provided in 18 U.S.C. 1001.

Delinquent Federal Debts: No award of Federal funds shall be made to an applicant who has an outstanding delinquent Federal debt until either:

1. The delinquent account is paid in full,
2. A negotiated repayment schedule is established and at least one payment is received, or
3. Other arrangements satisfactory to DoC are made.

Purchase of American-Made Equipment and Products: Applicants are hereby notified that they are encouraged, to the extent feasible, to purchase American-made equipment and products with funding provided under this program.

Indirect Costs: The total dollar amount of the indirect costs proposed in an application under this program must not exceed the indirect cost rate negotiated and approved by a cognizant Federal agency prior to the proposed effective date of the award or 100 percent of the total proposed direct costs dollar amount in the application, whichever is less.

Federal Policies and Procedures: Awards under the Materials Science and Engineering Laboratory Research Program shall be subject to all Federal laws and Federal and Departmental regulations, policies, and procedures applicable to financial assistance awards. The Materials Science and Engineering Grants Program does not directly affect any state or local government. Accordingly, the Department of Commerce has determined that Executive Order 12372 is not applicable to the Materials Science and Engineering Grants Program.

This funding notice has been determined to be not significant for purposes of Executive Order 12866.

Dated: April 11, 1996.

Samuel Kramer,

Associate Director.

[FR Doc. 96-9478 Filed 4-16-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-13-M

[Docket No. 950314074-6027-02]

RIN 0693-AB39

Approval of Federal Information Processing Standards Publication 128-2, Computer Graphics Metafile (CGM)

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

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The purpose of this notice is to announce that the Secretary of Commerce has approved a revision of Federal Information Processing Standard (FIPS) 128-1, Computer Graphics Metafile (CGM) which will be published as FIPS Publication 128-2. This revision adopts voluntary industry specification American National Standards Institute/International Organization for Standardization (ANSI/ISO) Computer Graphics Metafile (CGM), ANSI/ISO 8632.1-4:1992 [1994], ISO 8632:1992/Amd. 1:1994, ISO 8632:1992/Amd. 2:1995 and three CGM profiles. This revised standard supersedes FIPS 128-1 in its entirety.

On April 3, 1995, notice was published in the Federal Register (60 FR 16850-16854) that a Federal Information Processing Standard (FIPS) 128-2, Computer Graphics Metafile (CGM) was being proposed for Federal use.

The written comments submitted by interested parties and other material available to the Department relevant to this standard were reviewed by NIST. On the basis of this review, NIST recommended that the Secretary approve the revised standard as Federal Information Processing Standards Publication (FIPS PUB) 128-2, and prepared a detailed justification document for the Secretary's review in support of that recommendation.

The detailed justification document which was presented to the Secretary, and which includes an analysis of the written comments received, is part of the public record and is available for inspection and copying in the Department's Central Reference and Records Inspection Facility, Room 6020, Herbert C. Hoover Building, 14th Street between Pennsylvania and Constitution Avenues, NW., Washington, DC 20230.

This FIPS contains two sections: (1) An announcement section, which provides information concerning the applicability, implementation, and maintenance of the standard; and (2) a specifications section, which deals with the technical requirements of the standard. Only the announcement section of the standard is provided in this notice.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This standard becomes effective November 1, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Interested parties may purchase copies of this standard, including the technical specifications section, from the National Technical Information Service (NTIS). Specific ordering information from NTIS for this standard is set out in the Where to Obtain Copies Section of the announcement section of the standard.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Lynne Rosenthal, telephone (301) 975-3353, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, MD 20899.

Dated: April 11, 1996.

Samuel Kramer,

Associate Director.

Federal Information Processing Standards Publication 128-2

Announcing the Standard for Computer Graphics Metafile (CGM)

Federal Information Processing Standards Publications (FIPS PUBS) are issued by the national Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) after approval by the Secretary of Commerce pursuant to Section 5131 of the information Technology Management Reform Act of 1996 and the Computer Security Act of 1987, Public Law 104-106.

1. Name of Standard. Computer Graphics Metafile (CGM) (FIPS PUB 128-2).

2. Category of Standard. Software Standard, Graphics.

3. Explanation. This publication is a revision of FIPS PUB 128-1. This revision supersedes FIPS PUB 128-1 in its entirety and modifies the standard by:

(1) Adopting the Computer Graphics Metafile standard designated, ANSI/ISO 8632.1-4:1992[1994], and CGM Amendment 1: Rules for Profiles, ISO 8632:1992/Amd. 1:1994, and CGM Amendment 2: Application structuring extensions, ISO 8632:1992/Amd. 2:1995;

(2) Requiring the use of conforming profiles. Conformance of metafiles (i.e., data files) and implementations (i.e., generators and interpreters) is defined in terms of conformance to profiles; and

(3) adopting several profiles, one of which is required for implementation of this FIPS PUB.

FIPS PUB 128-2 adopts the American National Standards Institute/International Organization for Standardization (ANSI/ISO) 8632.1-4:1992[1994], ISO 8632:1992/Amd. 1:1994, ISO 8632:1992/Amd. 2:1995, and the following profiles:

(1) Model Profile as contained in CGM Amendment 1;

(2) Air Transport Association (ATA) Specification 2100, Graphics Exchange Specification (GREXCHANGE) for CGM;

(3) Continuous Acquisition and Life-Cycle Support (CALs), MIL-D-28003A.

CGM is a graphics data interchange standard which defines a neutral computer-interpretable representation of 2D graphical (pictorial) information in a manner that is independent from any particular application or system. The purpose of the standard is to facilitate the storage and retrieval of graphical information between applications, software systems, and/or devices. A CGM can contain:

- Vector graphics (e.g., polylines, ellipses, NURBS);
- Raster graphics (e.g., tile array); and
- Text.

The CGM standard defines three upward compatible versions. Each version provides additional functionality.

CGM Amendment 1 provides the rules for defining profiles of CGM and conformance requirements for profiles, metafiles, and implementations. Since a proliferation of CGM profiles is not desirable, only those profiles needed for Federal agency use have been added to the FIPS CGM. The exact specification is in Section 10 of this standard.

CGM Amendment 2 defines the mechanism for application-related structuring of metafiles.

4. Approving Authority. Secretary of Commerce.

5. Maintenance Agency. Department of Commerce, National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), computer Systems Laboratory (CSL).

6. Cross Index.

a. American National Standard/International Organization for Standardization (ANSI/ISO) Computer Graphics Metafile (CGM), ANSI/ISO 8632.1-4:1992[1994] (Part 1: Functional Specifications; Part 2: Character Encoding; Part 3: Binary Encoding; Part 4: Clear Text Encoding).

b. International Organization for Standardization (ISO) Computer Graphics Metafile (CGM), ISO 8632:1992/Amd. 1:1994.

c. International Organization for Standardization (ISO) Computer Graphics Metafile (CGM), ISO 8632:1992/Amd. 2:1995.

d. Air Transport Association Specification 2100, Digital Data Standards for Aircraft Support, GREXCHANGE v2.1, March 1995.

e. Military Specification, Digital Representation of Illustration Data: CGM Application Profile (AP), MIL-D-28003A, November 15, 1991.

7. Related Documents. Related ISO documents are listed in the reference section of the CGM standard, ANSI/ISO 8632.1-4:1992[1994].

a. Federal Information Processing Standards Publication (FIPS PUB) 29-3, Interpretation Procedures for FIPS Software.

b. Federal Information Processing Standards Publication (FIPS PUB) 120-1, Graphical Kernel System (GKS).

c. Federal Information Resources Management Regulations 201-20.303, Standards, and subpart 201-39.1002, Federal Standards.

d. NISTIR 5475, Validated Products List, J. Kailey and P. Himes, editors, republished quarterly.

e. NISTIR 5372, CGM: Procedures for NIST CGM Validation Test Service, L. Rosenthal and J. Schneider, February 1994.

f. ISO 10641-1992, Conformance Testing of Implementations of Graphics Standards.

8. Objectives. The primary objectives of this standard are:

- To reduce the overall life-cycle for digital systems by establishing a common exchange format for storing, transferring, and archiving graphical data across organizational boundaries and independent from any particular system.
- To promote the exchange of graphical information enabling applications to share data and reduce time spent recomputing in efforts to regenerate pictorial information.
- To specify application profiles which provide functional subsets of the CGM standard and maximize the probability of interchange between systems implementing the profile.
- To promote the use and development of conforming profiles and the harmonization of conformance testing efforts for metafiles, generators, and interpreters.

9. Applicability.

9.1 Applications acquired for government use which purport to create or read graphical pictures shall contain a conforming CGM generator or CGM interpreter. FIPS CGM enables the representations, transfer, and storage of graphical information between different software systems, graphics devices, and/or applications (e.g., word processing, publishing, drawing, spreadsheet, computer-aided design).

9.2 FIPS CGM shall be used when one or more of the following situations exist:

- Graphical information (e.g. illustrations, clip art) will be acquired for government use and incorporated into computer applications or documents.

—Computer applications, programs, systems, or devices will be acquired and used to create, modify, display, or render graphical information.

—Graphical information created by an application will be reviewed, modified, or incorporated into another application on the same or different computer systems.

—Graphical information will be used and maintained by other than the original designer.

—Graphical information will be used by multiple people, groups, or organizations within the Government or private sector.

9.3 The use of a profile is required for all metafiles and implementations of CGM. A profile defines the options, elements, and parameters of ANSI/ISO 8632 necessary to accomplish a particular function and to maximize the probability of interchange between systems implementing the profile. A profile addresses metafile requirements as well as implementation requirements. The profiles added by this FIPS CGM are required for industry specific and Federal government applications.

—Model Profile: The Model Profile is appropriate for basic scientific and technical graphics (e.g., computer-aided design, mapping, earth sciences, cartography) and presentation, visualization, and publishing applications (graphics arts, high end desk top publishing). This is a general purpose profile which supports all three CGM version 3 functionality level. For FIPS CGM, if no profile is specified, the Model Profile will be assumed by default.

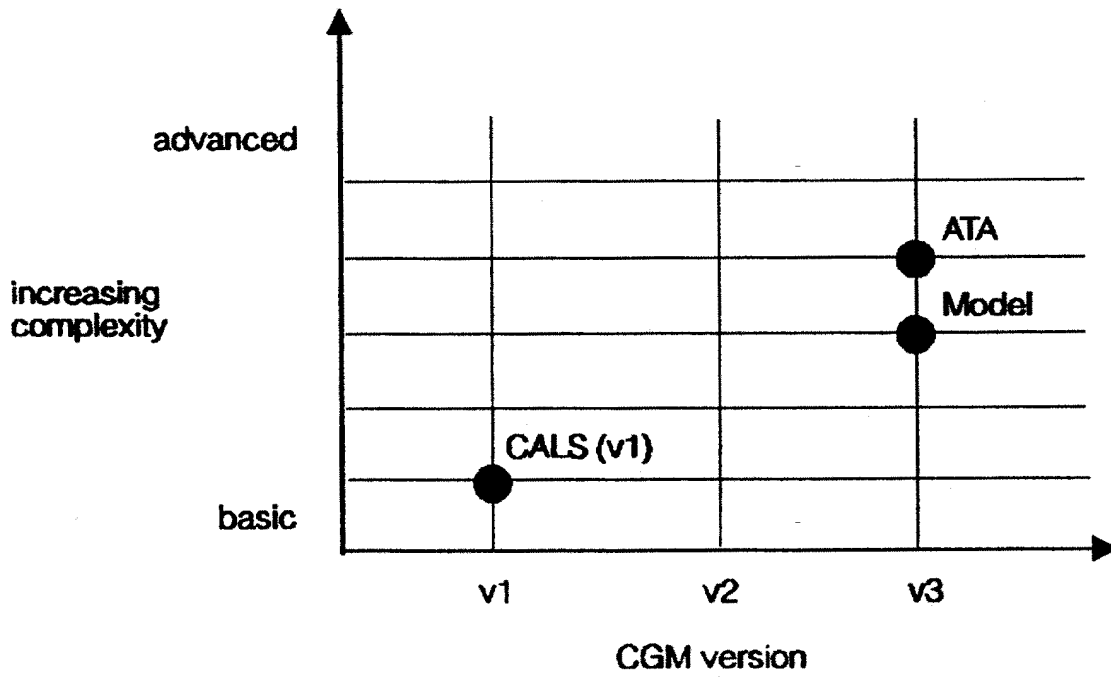
—ATA Specification 2100 GREXCHANGE: The ATA profile is appropriate for presentation, visualization, and publishing applications (e.g., graphical arts, imaging, electronic review of documents, hypermedia, and multimedia documents). Although similar to the Model Profile, the ATA profile allows for symbol libraries. This profile, developed by the Air Transport Association, supports the binary and clear text encodings at the CGM version 3 functionality level. Except for metafiles containing symbols or raster images, the ATA profile limits the number of pictures per metafiles to one.

—MIL-D-28003A: The CALS profile is appropriate for basic scientific and technical graphics, presentation and publishing applications (e.g., business presentation graphics, desktop publishing). In addition, this profile is appropriate for a basic level of general-purpose graphical

interchange. This profile, developed by CALS, supports only the binary encoding and is limited (by this FIPS CGM) to the CGM version 1 functionality level.

The diagram illustrates the relationship between the profiles. The x-axis represents the level of functionality by CGM version; the y-axis represents the complexity of problems that can be solved.

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10. Specifications. ANSI/ISO 8632.1-4:1992[1994], Computer Graphics Metafile, defines the scope of the specifications, the syntax, and semantics of the CGM elements. The ANSI/ISO 8632 consists of four parts: (Part 1: Functional Specifications; Part 2: Character and Coding; Part 3: Binding and Coding; Part 4: Clear Text Encoding). IOS 8632:1994/Amd. 1 defines the rules for profiles, conformance, and the Model profile, an instance of a CGM profile. In addition, one of the following profiles shall be used when implementing FIPS CGM: the Model Profile as specified in IOS 8632:1992/Amd. 1:1994, the ATA Specification 2100 Graphics Exchange for CGM, or the Military Specification MIL-D-28003A.

All implementations claiming conformance to this FIPS CGM must adhere to the specific requirements defined in the "Conformance" clause of ISO 8632:1992/Amd. 1:1994 and the application profile.

11. Implementation. The implementation of this standard involves four areas of consideration: effective date, acquisition, interpretation, and validation.

11.1 Effective Date. This publication is effective November 1, 1996. A transition period of six (6) months, beginning on the effective date, allows industry to produce CGM implementations and CGM files conforming to this standard. Agencies are encouraged to use this standard for solicitation proposals during the transition period. This standard is mandatory for use in all solicitation proposals for CGM files and implementations (i.e., products or software containing CGM generators and/or interpreters) acquired six (6) months after the effective date.

11.2 Acquisition of CGM Files and Implementations. The use of one of the profiles specified in Section 9.3 is required for conformance to CGM. Agencies should specify a profile in all acquisitions.

Conformance to this standard shall be considered whether CGM files or implementations are developed internally, acquired as part of a system procurement, acquired by separate procurement, used under a leasing agreement, or specified for use in contracts for programming services. Recommended terminology for procurement of FIPS CGM is contained in the U.S. General Services Administration publication Federal ADP and Telecommunications Standards Index, Chapter 5, Part 1.

11.3 Interpretation of FIPS CGM. Resolution of questions regarding this

standard will be provided by NIST. Procedures for interpretations are specified in FIPS PUB 29-3. Questions concerning the content and specifications should be addressed to: Director, Computer Systems Laboratory, ATTN: CGM Interpretation, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Building 820, Room 562, Gaithersburg, MD 20899.

11.4 Validation of CGM Files and Implementations. CGM files and implementations of FIPS CGM shall be validated in accordance with the NIST Computer Systems Laboratory (CSL) validation procedures for FIPS CGM, NISTIR 5372, Procedures for the NIST CGM Validation Test Service. Recommended procurement terminology for validation of FIPS CGM is contained in the U.S. General Services Administration publication Federal ADP and Telecommunications Standards Index, Chapter 5, Part 2. This GSA publication provides terminology for three validation options: Delayed Validation, Prior Validation Testing, and Prior Validation. The agency shall select the appropriate validation option and shall specify appropriate time frames for validation and correction of nonconformities. The agency is advised to refer to the NIST publication Validated Products List for information about the validation status of CGM products. This information may be used to specify validation time frames that are not unduly restrictive of competition.

Metafiles and implementations shall be evaluated in terms of conformance to a particular profile of CGM, using the NIST CGM Test Service. If no profile is specified, the Model Profile will be used. The goal of the NIST CGM Test Service, is to assist users and vendors in determining compliance to FIPS PUB 128-2. The results of validation testing by the NIST CGM Validation Test Service are published on a quarterly basis in the Validated Products List, available from the National Technical Information Service (NTIS).

Current information about the NIST CGM Validation Test Service and validation procedures for FIPS CGM is available from: National Institute of Standards and Technology Computer Systems Laboratory, Conformance Testing Group, CGM Test Service Building 820, Room 562, Gaithersburg, MD 20899, (301) 975-3283, e-mail: cgminfo@nist.gov

12. Waivers.

Under certain exceptional circumstances, the heads of Federal departments and agencies may approve waivers to Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS). The head

of such agency may redelegate such authority only to a senior official designated pursuant to section 3506(b) of Title 44, U.S. Code. Waivers shall be granted only when:

a. Compliance with a standard would adversely affect the accomplishment of the mission of an operator of a Federal computer system, or

b. Cause a major adverse financial impact on the operator which is not offset by Governmentwide savings.

Agency heads may act upon a written waiver request containing the information detailed above. Agency heads may also act without a written waiver request when they determine that conditions for meeting the standard cannot be met. Agency heads may approve waivers only by a written decision which explains the basis on which the agency head made the required finding(s). A copy of each such decision, with procurement sensitive or classified portions clearly identified, shall be sent to: National Institute of Standards and Technology; ATTN: FIPS Waiver Decisions, Building 820, Room 509; Gaithersburg, MD 20899.

In addition, notice of each waiver granted and each delegation of authority to approve waivers shall be sent promptly to the Committee on Government Operations of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Governmental Affairs of the Senate and shall be published promptly in the Federal Register.

When the determination on a waiver applies to the procurement of equipment and/or services, a notice of the waiver determination must be published in the *Commerce Business Daily* as a part of the notice of solicitation for offers of an acquisition or, if the waiver determination is made after that notice is published, by amendment to such notice.

A copy of the waiver, any supporting documents, the document approving the waiver and any supporting and accompanying documents, with such deletions as the agency is authorized and decides to make under 5 U.S.C. Sec. 552(b), shall be part of the procurement documentation and retained by the agency.

13. *Where to Obtain Copies.* Copies of this publication are for sale by the National Technical Information Service, U.S. Department of Commerce, Springfield, VA 22161. (Sale of the included specifications document is by arrangement with the American National Standards Institute.) When ordering, refer to Federal Information Processing Standards Publication 128-2 (FIPSPUB128-2), and title. Payment

may be made by check, money order, or NTIS deposit account.

[FR Doc. 96-9444 Filed 4-16-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-CN-M

Announcement of Approval of Standard of American Petroleum Institute

AGENCY: National Institute of Standards and Technology, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of approval of American Petroleum Institute (API) Standard 1512, *Petroleum Test Laboratory Accreditation Program*

SUMMARY: The American Petroleum Institute, with the assistance of other interested parties, continues to develop standards, both national and international, in several areas. This notice lists the standardization effort currently being conducted; namely, API Standard 1512, *API Petroleum Test Laboratory Accreditation Program*. The publication of this notice by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) on behalf of API is being undertaken as a public service. NIST does not necessarily endorse, approve, or recommend the standard referenced in this notice.

ADDRESSES: American Petroleum Institute, 1220 L Street, NW, Washington, DC 20005-4070.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Roland Goodman, American Petroleum Institute, telephone: 202-682-8571, fax: 202-682-8154.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: NIST first announced the proposed development of this API voluntary standard and API's

request for public comments in the Federal Register on February 21, 1995 (60 FR 9669-9670).

Authority: 15 U.S.C. 272.

Dated: April 11, 1996.

Samuel Kramer,
Associate Director.

[FR Doc. 96-9443 Filed 4-16-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-13-M

Patent and Trademark Office

Admittance to Practice and Roster of Registered Patent Attorneys and Agents Admitted to Practice Before the Patent and Trademark Office

ACTION: Proposed collection; comment request.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before June 17, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Linda Engelmeier, Acting Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 5327, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection

instruments(s) and instructions should be directed to Craig R. Feinberg, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231, (703) 308-5316, extension 10.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The Office of Enrollment and Discipline collects information to determine the qualifications of individuals entitled to represent applicants before the Patent and Trademark Office in the preparation and prosecution of applications for a patent, and to administer and maintain the roster of attorneys and agents registered to practice before the Patent and Trademark Office.

II. Method of Collection

By mail, facsimile, and hand carry when the individual desires to participate in the information collection.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0651-0012.

Form Numbers: PTO-107A, PTO-158, PTO-275, and PTO-297.

Type of Review: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Affected Public: Individuals.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 10,500.

Estimated Time Per Response: 20 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 3,500 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Cost: \$694,500.

| Title of form | Form No. | Est. time for re- sponse | Est. annual bur- den hours | Est. annual responses |
|--|----------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Data Sheet | PTO-107A | 20 minutes | 1,333 | 4,000 |
| Application for Registration | PTO-158 | 20 minutes | 1,000 | 3,000 |
| Undertaking Under 37 CFR § 10.10 (b) | PTO-275 | 20 minutes | 167 | 500 |
| Exam. for Registration— Admission Card | PTO-297 | 20 minutes | 1,000 | 3,000 |

IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the

use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: April 12, 1996.

Linda Engelmeier,
Acting Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of Management and Organization.

[FR Doc. 96-9481 Filed 4-16-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-16-P

Technology Administration

Interagency Council on Metric Policy; Metric Town Meetings and Workshops

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce and the Interagency Council on Metric Policy will sponsor six regional Metric Town Meetings and Workshops. At each meeting, participants will have the opportunity to hear from local and national experts on the benefits of using the metric system to increase our global competitiveness, commercialize new technologies, and enhance the job skills of America's workforce. Open forum