NIST Director Testifies on FY 2017 Budget Proposal
On March 16, 2016, NIST Director Dr. Willie E. May testified before the House Committee on Science, Space, & Technology Subcommittee on Research & Technology. His written testimony "An Overview of the Fiscal Year 2017 Budget for the National Institute of Standards and Technology" is available here. An archived video of the Hearing is accessible online here.

NSTIC Federal Funding Opportunity (FFO)
NIST's National Strategy for Trusted Identities in Cyberspace (NSTIC) Program Office is soliciting applications from eligible applicants to demonstrate the usage of federated online identity solutions for patients and providers across multiple healthcare providers (e.g., provider groups, regional healthcare systems, hospital systems). The pilot program is intended to demonstrate how deployment of federated identity credentials improves access to online health information. NIST anticipates funding one award in the range of $750,000 to $1,000,000 for eighteen months. Detailed information on this pilot program is available online at the NSTIC website. You can link to the full FFO here. Applications are due Wednesday June 1, 2016 by 11:59 pm EDT.

NIST 3 Year Programmatic Plan: 2017-1019
NIST promotes U.S. innovation and industrial competitiveness by advancing measurement science, standards, and technology in a range of strategic areas critical to the nation’s economy. The America COMPETES Act (Pub. L. 110-69, 121 Stat. 572) outlines major roles for NIST in promoting national competitiveness and innovation, and also calls for NIST to submit a three-year programmatic plan concurrent with the submission of the President’s budget request to Congress. This document summarizes the focus of NIST programs for use in planning and prioritizing investments over the 2017-1019 three-year period. The document is available for download here.

Upcoming Regional MEP Forums
NIST’s Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) intends to publish a Federal Funding Opportunity (FFO) announcement in July 2016 of funding availability for MEP Centers in the following eleven states: Delaware, Hawaii, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Mississippi, New Mexico, Nevada, North Dakota, South Carolina and Wyoming. The competition continues a multiyear effort to update the program’s funding structure to better match manufacturing industry needs with resources in MEP’s nationwide network. U.S. based nonprofit institutions or organizations, including existing MEP centers, are eligible to participate in the competition. The cooperative agreements have a five-year period of performance with the opportunity to receive another five years of funding based on successful performance and availability of funds.

Prior to the July FFO announcement, NIST MEP is conducting three regional forums in May (DC and Denver, CO) and June (Chicago, IL) to provide more information about the MEP program, the state competition, and answer any questions regarding this funding announcement. For further details on the forums, including dates, specific locations and registration, please visit the MEP Competition web page link.

Assessing the Economic Impact of the Nation’s GPS Precision Timing Infrastructure FFO
NIST invites applications from eligible applicants to assess the economic impact of the Nation’s Space-based positioning, navigation and timing. Specifically, the awardee, in collaboration with NIST, will identify key technologies developed by and transferred from federal laboratories that support GPS, estimate the qualitative and quantitative economic impact of these investments, and sponsor certain focused graduate and post-doctoral research. The applicant will conduct a retrospective analysis to estimate national benefits that have been realized by GPS and not project future benefits of GPS. Full details of the FFO are accessible online here. Closing date for applications is 11:59 pm EDT., May 6, 2016.
Cybersecurity Framework Workshop at NIST: April 6-7, 2016

Executive Order 13636, Improving Critical Infrastructure Cybersecurity, directed NIST to work with stakeholders to develop a voluntary framework for reducing cyber risks to critical infrastructure. Version 1.0 of the Cybersecurity Framework, released on February 12, 2014, was developed in an open manner with input from stakeholders in industry, academia, and government, including a public review and comment process, workshops, and other means of engagement. In addition to highlighting a variety of Framework uses, this workshop will gather input to help NIST understand stakeholder awareness and current use of the Framework, the need for an update to the Framework, cybersecurity best practices sharing, as well as the future governance of the Framework. Complete information including the agenda for the April 6-7, 2016 workshop at NIST is available online here. The event will be webcast and available online here.

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