

in order to convert foreign currencies into U.S. dollars, unless the daily rate involves a "fluctuation." It is the Department's practice to find that a fluctuation exists when the daily exchange rate differs from the benchmark rate by 2.25 percent. The benchmark is defined as the rolling average of rates for the past 40 business days. When we determined a fluctuation existed, we substituted the benchmark for the daily rate, in accordance with established practice. Further, section 773A(b) directs the Department to allow a 60-day adjustment period when a currency has undergone a sustained movement. A sustained movement has occurred when the weekly average of actual daily rates exceeds the weekly average of benchmark rates by more than five percent for eight consecutive weeks. (For an explanation of this method, see, *Policy Bulletin 96-1: Currency Conversions*, 61 FR 9434, March 8, 1996.). Such an adjustment period is required only when a foreign currency is appreciating against the U.S. dollar.

Verification

As provided in section 782(i) of the Act, we will verify all information determined to be acceptable for use in making our final determination.

Suspension of Liquidation

In accordance with section 733(d) of the Act, we are directing the Customs Service to suspend liquidation of all entries of sodium azide from Japan, that are entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after the date of publication of this notice in the Federal Register. We are also instructing the Customs Service to require a cash deposit or the posting of a bond equal to the weighted-average amount by which the normal value exceeds the export price, as indicated in the chart below. These suspension of liquidation instructions will remain in effect until further notice.

Exporter/manufacture	Weighted-average margin percentage
Masuda	29.50
NCI	65.80
TKK	65.80
All Others	29.50

ITC Notification

In accordance with section 733(f) of the Act, we have notified the ITC of our determination. If our final determination is affirmative, the ITC will determine before the later of 120 days after the date of this preliminary

determination or 45 days after our final determination whether these imports are materially injuring, or threaten material injury to, the U.S. industry.

Public Comment

Case briefs or other written comments in at least ten copies must be submitted to the Assistant Secretary for Import Administration no later than November 20, 1996, and rebuttal briefs, no later than November 27, 1996. A list of authorities used and an executive summary of issues should accompany any briefs submitted to the Department. Such summary should be limited to five pages total, including footnotes. In accordance with section 774 of the Act, we will hold a public hearing, if requested, to afford interested parties an opportunity to comment on arguments raised in case or rebuttal briefs. Tentatively, the hearing will be held on November 29, 1996, the time and place to be determined, at the U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20230. Parties should confirm by telephone the time, date, and place of the hearing 48 hours before the scheduled time.

Interested parties who wish to request a hearing, or to participate if one is requested, must submit a written request to the Assistant Secretary for Import Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, Room B-099, within ten days of the publication of this notice. Requests should contain: (1) the party's name, address, and telephone number; (2) the number of participants; and (3) a list of the issues to be discussed. Oral presentations will be limited to issues raised in the briefs. If this investigation proceeds normally, we will make our final determination by 135 days after the publication of this notice in the Federal Register.

This determination is published pursuant to section 733(d) of the Act.

Dated: August 9, 1996.

Robert S. LaRussa,

Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.

[FR Doc. 96-20891 Filed 8-15-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DS-P

Applications for Duty-Free Entry of Scientific Instruments

Pursuant to Section 6(c) of the Educational, Scientific and Cultural Materials Importation Act of 1966 (Pub. L. 89-651; 80 Stat. 897; 15 CFR part 301), we invite comments on the question of whether instruments of equivalent scientific value, for the purposes for which the instruments

shown below are intended to be used, are being manufactured in the United States.

Comments must comply with 15 CFR 301.5(a) (3) and (4) of the regulations and be filed within 20 days with the Statutory Import Programs Staff, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20230. Applications may be examined between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. in Room 4211, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC.

Docket Number: 96-078. **Applicant:** Argonne National Laboratory-West, I.N.E.L., EBR-II Site, Scoville, ID 83415. **Instrument:** Electron Microscope, Model JEM-2010. **Manufacturer:** JEOL Ltd., Japan. **Intended Use:** The instrument will be used for examining materials primarily associated with decommissioning of a nuclear reactor and its associated waste streams; as well as characterization of high level waste forms. The primary items of interest are defect and phase identification, chemical segregation and boundary chemical and crystallographic characterization. **Application accepted by Commissioner of Customs:** July 23, 1996.

Docket Number: 96-079. **Applicant:** University of Arizona, Department of Geosciences, Gould-Simpson Building, Room 208, Tucson, AZ 85721. **Instrument:** Mass Spectrometer, Model Sector 54. **Manufacturer:** Micromass, United Kingdom. **Intended Use:** The instrument will be used for the study of U-Th-Pb, Lu-Hf, Sm-Nd and Rb-Sr isotopic systems. **Application accepted by Commissioner of Customs:** July 22, 1996.

Docket Number: 96-080. **Applicant:** Berkeley Geochronology Center, 2455 Ridge Road, Berkeley, CA 94709. **Instrument:** Mass Spectrometer, Model Sector 54. **Manufacturer:** Micromass, United Kingdom. **Intended Use:** The instrument will be used in age determinations (geochronology) of geologic and archaeological materials, such as rocks, minerals, artifacts and fossils. These ages will be determined by analysis of the isotopic ratios of various elements, typically but not exclusively uranium, thorium, lead, strontium and neodymium. In addition, the instrument will be used for training of graduate students and post-doctoral fellows from a variety of universities as part of collaborative research.

Application accepted by Commissioner of Customs: July 23, 1996.

Docket Number: 96-081. **Applicant:** Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center, 423 East 23rd Street, New York, NY 10010. **Instrument:** Electron Microscope, Model JEM-1010.

Manufacturer: JEOL Ltd., Japan.

Intended Use: The instrument will be used for ultrastructural diagnosis of patient material, and for ultrastructural research using both human and animal tissues necessary in the treatment of veterans. In addition, the instrument will be used for the training on a one-to-one basis of medical and graduate students. *Application accepted by Commissioner of Customs:* July 23, 1996.

Docket Number: 96-082. *Applicant:* Florida State University, MBB 151, Tallahassee, FL 32306-3015.

Instrument: Electron Microscope, Model CM120. *Manufacturer:* Philips, The Netherlands. *Intended Use:* The instrument will be used in research studies to examine the ultrastructure of cells and how it relates to biological function and disease processes. Experiments will involve isolation of protein and assemblies, growth of 2-D crystalline arrays of protein followed by examination in the microscope. The instruments will also be used for trial studies in structure-based drug design to demonstrate the feasibility of using electron crystallography in this area. *Application accepted by Commissioner of Customs:* July 24, 1996.

Frank W. Creel,

Director, Statutory Import Programs Staff.

[FR Doc. 96-20935 Filed 8-15-96; 8:45 am]

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University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, et al.; Notice of Consolidated Decision on Applications for Duty-Free Entry of Scientific Instruments

This is a decision consolidated pursuant to Section 6(c) of the Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Materials Importation Act of 1966 (Pub. L. 89-651, 80 Stat. 897; 15 CFR part 301). Related records can be viewed between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. in Room 4211, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th and Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C.

Comments: None received. *Decision:* Approved. No instrument of equivalent scientific value to the foreign instruments described below, for such purposes as each is intended to be used, is being manufactured in the United States.

Docket Number: 96-019. *Applicant:* University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Urbana, IL 61801.

Instrument: Stopped-Flow Reaction Analyser, Model SX.17MV. *Manufacturer:* Applied Photophysics Ltd., United Kingdom. *Intended Use:* See notice at 61 FR 25622, May 22,

1996. *Reasons:* The foreign instrument provides simultaneous measurements across the entire white-light spectrum with high beam stability using a diode array detector.

Docket Number: 96-038. *Applicant:* Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN 47907. *Instrument:* Stopped-Flow Fluorimeter, Model SX.17MV. *Manufacturer:* Applied Photophysics Ltd., United Kingdom. *Intended Use:* See notice at 61 FR 28177, June 4, 1996. *Reasons:* The foreign instrument provides automated multiple mixing using a 4-syringe drive unit under computer control.

Docket Number: 96-039. *Applicant:* Columbia University, Lamont-Doherty Observatory, Palisades, NY 10964-8000. *Instrument:* Mass Spectrometer, Model VG 5400. *Manufacturer:* Fisons Instruments, United Kingdom. *Intended Use:* See notice at 61 FR 28177, June 4, 1996. *Reasons:* The foreign instrument provides (1) a low background count rate at mass 36 (less than 5×10^{-14} cc STP) and (2) a desorption rate less than 10^{-17} cc STP/min of 40Ar.

Docket Number: 96-040. *Applicant:* Washington University, St. Louis, MO 63130-4899. *Instrument:* ICP Mass Spectrometer, Model ELEMENT. *Manufacturer:* Finnigan MAT, Germany. *Intended Use:* See notice at 61 FR 28177, June 4, 1996. *Reasons:* The foreign instrument provides a magnetic sector analyzer with resolution to 7500 for precise and accurate low level (sub ppb) measurements of the transition elements.

Docket Number: 96-042. *Applicant:* University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS 66045. *Instrument:* Mass Spectrometer, Model PlasmaQuad XS. *Manufacturer:* Fisons Instruments, Inc., United Kingdom. *Intended Use:* See notice at 61 FR 28177, June 4, 1996. *Reasons:* The foreign instrument provides: (1) sub ppt detection limits for Li, Cs, Pb, U and In, (2) sensitivity >20 Mcps/ppm for heavy elements and (3) UV laser ablation capability.

The capabilities of each of the foreign instruments described above are pertinent to each applicant's intended purposes. We know of no instrument or apparatus being manufactured in the United States which is of equivalent scientific value to any of the foreign instruments.

Frank W. Creel,

Director, Statutory Import Programs Staff.

[FR Doc. 96-20934 Filed 8-15-96; 8:45 am]

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University of Wisconsin, et al.; Notice of Consolidated Decision on Applications for Duty-Free Entry of Scientific Instruments

This is a decision consolidated pursuant to Section 6(c) of the Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Materials Importation Act of 1966 (Pub. L. 89-651, 80 Stat. 897; 15 CFR part 301). Related records can be viewed between 8:30 A.M. and 5:00 P.M. in Room 4211, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th and Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C.

Comments: None received. *Decision:* Approved. No instrument of equivalent scientific value to the foreign instruments described below, for such purposes as each is intended to be used, is being manufactured in the United States.

Docket Number: 95-085R. *Applicant:* University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, Eau Claire, WI 54702. *Instrument:* Absorbance and Fluorescence Stopped-Flow Spectrophotometer, Model SX.17MV. *Manufacturer:* Applied Photophysics Ltd., United Kingdom. *Intended Use:* See notice at 60 FR 50555, September 29, 1995. *Reasons:* The foreign instrument provides a fast enough dead time for observation of rapid reactions with rate constants approaching 1500 reciprocal seconds. *Advice received from:* The National Institutes of Health, June 10, 1996.

Docket Number: 96-029. *Applicant:* University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA 52242. *Instrument:* EPR Spectrometer, Model EMX 6/1. *Manufacturer:* Bruker Instruments, Germany. *Intended Use:* See notice at 61 FR 28176, June 4, 1996. *Reasons:* The foreign instrument provides a multifrequency single-channel cavity with a continuous range of modulation frequencies from 6 kHz to 100 kHz with a resolution of 0.01 kHz. *Advice received from:* The National Institutes of Health, March 29, 1996.

Docket Number: 96-033. *Applicant:* University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA 90089-2520. *Instrument:* Xenon Flashlamp System, Model XF-10. *Manufacturer:* Hi-Tech Scientific, United Kingdom. *Intended Use:* See notice at 61 FR 28176, June 4, 1996. *Reasons:* The foreign instrument provides: (1) a high voltage power supply integrated and coupled to a xenon flashlamp system and (2) time resolution in the millisecond range with moderate repetition rates. *Advice received from:* The National Institutes of Health, March 29, 1996.

Docket Number: 96-045. *Applicant:* Monell Chemical Senses Center, Philadelphia, PA 19104-3308. *Instrument:* Xenon Flashlamp System,