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Progress Through Regional Cooperation In The Alleghenies

State of the PTAC - June 2022

by James Gerraughty,
SAP&DC PTAC Program Manager



That part of spring/summer where you have to mow your lawn every 4 days is here! I have a small yard and an old-school reel mower, so it's not a big deal. However, I expect some yards I walk by with my dogs will require those big combine harvesters to clear a path.

Speaking of clearing a path, don't get frustrated with the delays in SAM renewals. However, do get in touch with your local PTAC for assistance. Since mid-April, things have been a little crazy when it comes to registrations and renewals, and delays and other changes can be frustrating. You are not alone, and PTACs across the country have been sharing tips and tricks to "clear out the thicket."

In the next few weeks, we're going to have various trainings, mostly online, COVID 19-dependent. Some topics of interest will be the DHS E-Verify program from DHS in the summer of 2022, and a small business workshop pairing government contracting and business growth later in the year.

Please review and register for upcoming events on our [eCenter page](#).

If you have ideas for topics, or would like to learn more about something, please drop us a line at (814) 949-6500 or by [Email](#).

Setting the Standard: How the SBA Determines Size Standards for Small Businesses

By John Holtz, Attorney, Koprince, McCall, Potroff, LLC

In a recent [post](#), we examined some proposed new size standards for manufacturing and other industries that utilize employee-based size standards. This probably got many of you wondering: How does the SBA determine what the size standards should be? It's a good question, and today, we're going to look at just that. Hopefully, this will provide some insight as to the SBA's approach to setting size standards.

The SBA revised its size standards methodology most recently back in [April 2019](#). This methodology is compiled in a 59-page document located [here](#). We thought it'd be useful to break down and summarize this document for your convenience.

While calculations are used, there really isn't a "one-size-fits-all" calculation that the SBA uses to determine proper size standards. There are five primary factors that SBA uses for determining if an industry's size standard should be modified. [Continue Reading](#)

(Accessed 6/02/2022)

Scam Artists Have Misused the DHS Seal. One Lawmaker Wants to Change That

By Courtney Buble, Government Executive

"It is clear the department needs express authority to protect its seal so it can pursue action against those who unlawfully misappropriate it," said Rep. Bennie Thompson.

The Homeland Security Department's seal needs stronger protections against misappropriation and exploitation, according to a top House lawmaker.

"With the recent infiltration of the Secret Service by individuals impersonating DHS officers, it is clear the department needs express authority to protect its seal so it can pursue action against those who unlawfully misappropriate it," Rep. Bennie Thompson, D-Miss., chairman of the House Homeland Security Committee, said on Monday, upon [introducing new legislation](#). "With its diverse national security mission, DHS needs the protections that other federal departments and agencies have." [Continue Reading](#)

(Accessed 6/2/2022)

What You Need to Know about the Defense Production Act – the 1950s Law Biden Invoked to Try to End the Baby Formula Shortage

By Erik Gordon, Professor of Business, University of Michigan

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Biden said the Defense Production Act would help end the shortage by directing suppliers of baby formula to prioritize delivery to formula manufacturers.

U.S. President Joe Biden on May 18, 2022, announced he is invoking the Defense Production Act to help end the shortage of baby formula stressing out parents nationwide.

He said he will direct suppliers of baby formula ingredients to prioritize delivery to formula manufacturers and control their distribution as necessary.

You might well wonder what babies going without formula has to do with defense production, which calls to mind big warships and weapons systems. While using the Defense Production Act to force companies to make baby formula would certainly be a novel use of the act, it would hardly be the first time the postwar law has been used beyond its originally intended purpose to support national defense. [Continue Reading](#)

(Accessed 6/2/2022)

About US

The PTAC at SAP&DC is an economic development entity that bridges the gap between supplier and buyer in the government marketplace. The PTAC stands ready to support businesses in the central PA Alleghenies region in the pursuit to secure contracts with local, state and/or federal government agencies nationwide.

Due to the generous support of our Commonwealth and Federal funding partners, services provided by the PTAC are free of charge.

Whether you are an experienced contractor or new to the government marketplace, the PTAC will provide one-on-one counseling utilizing all of the program resources necessary to increase your share of contract awards.

Contact us today at The PTAC at SAP&DC to get started!

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