

first year after August 9, 2007, the Director shall submit to Congress a 3-year programmatic planning document for the Institute, including programs under the Scientific and Technical Research and Services, Industrial Technology Services, and Construction of Research Facilities functions.

**(d) Annual update on three-year programmatic planning document**

Concurrent with the submission to the Congress of the President's annual budget request in each year after August 9, 2007, the Director shall submit to Congress an update to the 3-year programmatic planning document submitted under subsection (c), revised to cover the first 3 fiscal years after the date of that update.

(Mar. 3, 1901, ch. 872, §23, as added Pub. L. 100-418, title V, §5114(2), Aug. 23, 1988, 102 Stat. 1432; amended Pub. L. 110-69, title III, §3004, Aug. 9, 2007, 121 Stat. 590.)

AMENDMENTS

2007—Subsecs. (c), (d). Pub. L. 110-69 added subsecs. (c) and (d).

CHANGE OF NAME

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of House of Representatives treated as referring to Committee on Science of House of Representatives by section 1(a) of Pub. L. 104-14, set out as a note preceding section 21 of Title 2, The Congress. Committee on Science of House of Representatives changed to Committee on Science and Technology of House of Representatives by House Resolution No. 6, One Hundred Tenth Congress, Jan. 5, 2007. Committee on Science and Technology of House of Representatives changed to Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of House of Representatives by House Resolution No. 5, One Hundred Twelfth Congress, Jan. 5, 2011.

**§ 278j. Studies by National Research Council**

The Director may periodically contract with the National Research Council for advice and studies to assist the Institute to serve United States industry and science. The subjects of such advice and studies may include—

- (1) the competitive position of the United States in key areas of manufacturing and emerging technologies and research activities which would enhance that competitiveness;
- (2) potential activities of the Institute, in cooperation with industry and the States, to assist in the transfer and dissemination of new technologies for manufacturing and quality assurance; and
- (3) identification and assessment of likely barriers to widespread use of advanced manufacturing technology by the United States workforce, including training and other initiatives which could lead to a higher percentage of manufacturing jobs of United States companies being located within the borders of our country.

(Mar. 3, 1901, ch. 872, §24, as added Pub. L. 100-418, title V, §5114(2), Aug. 23, 1988, 102 Stat. 1432.)

**§ 278k. Regional centers for the transfer of manufacturing technology**

**(a) Creation and support of Centers; affiliations; merit review in determining awards; objectives**

The Secretary, through the Director and, if appropriate, through other officials, shall provide assistance for the creation and support of regional centers for the transfer of manufacturing technology (hereafter in this chapter referred to as the "Centers"). Such centers<sup>1</sup> shall be affiliated with any United States-based nonprofit institution or organization, or group thereof, that applies for and is awarded financial assistance under this section in accordance with the description published by the Secretary in the Federal Register under subsection (c)(2). Individual awards shall be decided on the basis of merit review. The objective of the Centers is to enhance productivity and technological performance in United States manufacturing through—

- (1) the transfer of manufacturing technology and techniques developed at the Institute to Centers and, through them, to manufacturing companies throughout the United States;
- (2) the participation of individuals from industry, universities, State governments, other Federal agencies, and, when appropriate, the Institute in cooperative technology transfer activities;
- (3) efforts to make new manufacturing technology and processes usable by United States-based small- and medium-sized companies;
- (4) the active dissemination of scientific, engineering, technical, and management information about manufacturing to industrial firms, including small- and medium-sized manufacturing companies;
- (5) the utilization, when appropriate, of the expertise and capability that exists in Federal laboratories other than the Institute; and
- (6) providing to community colleges information about the job skills needed in small- and medium-sized manufacturing businesses in the regions they serve.

**(b) Activities of Centers**

The activities of the Centers shall include—

- (1) the establishment of automated manufacturing systems and other advanced production technologies, based on research by the Institute, for the purpose of demonstrations and technology transfer;
- (2) the active transfer and dissemination of research findings and Center expertise to a wide range of companies and enterprises, particularly small- and medium-sized manufacturers; and
- (3) loans, on a selective, short-term basis, of items of advanced manufacturing equipment to small manufacturing firms with less than 100 employees.

**(c) Duration and amount of support; program descriptions; applications; merit review; evaluations of assistance; applicability of patent law; report; modification of requirements**

(1) The Secretary may provide financial support to any Center created under subsection (a)

<sup>1</sup> So in original. Probably should be capitalized.