

**FEDERAL EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT AGENCY****Open Meeting, Technical Mapping
Advisory Council**

AGENCY: Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

ACTION: Notice of teleconference meeting.

SUMMARY: In accordance with § 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. 1, the Federal Emergency Management Agency gives notice that the following meeting will be held:

Name: Technical Mapping Advisory Council.

Date of Meeting: July 8, 1999.

Place: The FEMA Conference Operator in Washington, DC will initiate the teleconference. Individuals interested in participating should call 1-800-320-4330 at the time of the teleconference. Callers will be prompted for the conference code, #16, and then connected through to the teleconference.

Time: 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., EST.

Proposed Agenda:

1. Call to order.
2. Announcements.
3. Action on minutes from May 1999 meeting.
4. Status of letter regarding possible extension of Council's duration.
5. Update on recommendations.
6. Discuss preparation for the 1999 Annual Report.
7. Discuss agenda for September 1999 meeting in Louisville, KY.
8. Discuss agenda for December 1999 meeting in Washington, DC.
9. New business.
10. Adjournment.

Status: This meeting is open to the public.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Michael K. Buckley, P.E., Federal Emergency Management Agency, 500 C Street SW., room 421, Washington, DC 20472, telephone (202) 646-2756 or by facsimile at (202) 646-4596.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Minutes of the meeting will be prepared and will be available upon request 30 days after they have been approved by the next Technical Mapping Advisory Council meeting in September 1999.

Dated: June 14, 1999.

Michael J. Armstrong,

Associate Director for Mitigation.

[FR Doc. 99-15808 Filed 6-21-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6718-04-P

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

[File No. 9723075]

**Tiger Direct, Inc.; Analysis To Aid
Public Comment**

AGENCY: Federal Trade Commission.

ACTION: Proposed consent agreement.

SUMMARY: The consent agreement in this matter settles alleged violations of federal law prohibiting unfair or deceptive acts or practices or unfair methods of competition. The attached Analysis to Aid Public Comment describes both the allegations in the draft complaint that accompanies the consent agreement and the terms of the consent order—embodied in the consent agreement—that would settle these allegations.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before August 23, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be directed to: FTC/Office of the Secretary, Room 159, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20580.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Andrew Caverly or Colleen Lynch, Boston Regional Office, Federal Trade Commission, 101 Merrimac Street, Suite 810, Boston, MA 02114-4719, (617) 424-5960.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to Section 6(f) of the Federal Trade Commission Act, 38 Stat. 721, 15 U.S.C. 46, and Section 2.34 of the Commission's Rules of Practice, 16 CFR 2.34, notice is hereby given that the above-captioned consent agreement containing a consent order to cease and desist, having been filed with and accepted, subject to final approval, by the Commission, has been placed on the public record for a period of sixty (60) days. The following Analysis to Aid Public Comment describes the terms of the consent agreement, and the allegations in the complaint. An electronic copy of the full text of the consent agreement package can be obtained from the FTC Home Page (for June 10th, 1999), on the World Wide Web, at "http://www.ftc.gov/os/actions97.htm." A paper copy can be obtained from the FTC Public Reference Room, Room H-130, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20580, either in person by calling (202) 326-3627.

Public comment is invited. Comments should be directed to: FTC/Office of the Secretary, Room 159, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20580. Two paper copies of each comment should be filed, and should be accompanied, if possible, by a 3½ inch diskette containing an electronic copy of

the comment. Such comments or views will be considered by the Commission and will be available for inspection and copying at its principal office in accordance with Section 4.9(b)(6)(ii) of the Commission's Rules of Practice (16 CFR 4.9(b)(6)(ii)).

**Analysis of Proposed Consent Order To
Aid Public Comment**

The Federal Trade Commission has accepted, subject to final approval, an agreement containing a consent order from Tiger Direct, Inc. ("Tiger Direct"), a mail order retailer of computer products.

The proposed consent order has been placed on the public record for sixty (60) days for reception of comments by interested persons. Comments received during this period will become part of the public record. After sixty (60) days, the Commission will again review the agreement and the comments received and will decide whether it should withdraw from the agreement or make final the agreement's proposed order.

The Commission's complaint alleges that Tiger Direct violated Section 5 of the Federal Trade Commission Act ("FTC Act"), 15 U.S.C. 45(a)(1), by deceptively advertising its on-site warranty service for Tiger-brand computer systems. Additionally, the complaint alleges that Tiger Direct has violated the Magnuson-Moss Warranty Act ("Warranty Act"), 15 U.S.C. 2301 *et seq.*, and two Rules promulgated thereunder: the Rule concerning the Disclosure of Written Consumer Product Warranty Terms and Conditions ("Disclosure Rule"), 16 CFR 701; and the Rule concerning the Pre-Sale Availability of Written Warranty Terms ("Pre-Sale Availability Rule"), 16 CFR 702. Under Section 110(b) of the Warranty Act, 15 U.S.C. § 2310(b), violations of the Warranty Act or its Rules are also violations of Section 5 of the FTC Act.

First, the complaint alleges that Tiger Direct violated Section 5 of the FTC Act by misrepresenting that it would provide on-site warranty service to purchasers of Tiger-brand computer systems when notified that the system or any of its parts was defective or had malfunctioned and that it would provide such service within a reasonable period of time after being notified of a problem.

Second, the complaint alleges that Tiger Direct violated the Pre-Sale Availability Rule by failing to disclose material warranty terms or otherwise comply with the Rule. The complaint also alleges that Tiger Direct failed to comply with the requirements of the Disclosure Rule that certain language be

included in written warranties including: what the warrantor will not pay for or provide, where necessary for clarification; a step-by-step explanation of the procedure that the consumer should follow in order to obtain performance of any warranty obligation; a notice that its warranty exclusion of incidental and consequential damages does not apply to consumers in states that prohibit such exclusions; and that a consumer may have other rights that vary from state to state. In addition, the complaint alleges that Tiger Direct violated the Warranty Act by failing to clearly and conspicuously designate its written warranty as "full" or "limited" and by disclaiming all implied warranties, which the Warranty Act prohibits.

The proposed consent order contains provisions designed to remedy the violations charged and to prevent Tiger Direct from engaging in similar deceptive acts and practices in the future.

Part I of the proposed order prohibits Tiger Direct from representing that it provides on-site service unless it discloses all limitations and conditions that apply to obtaining on-site service clearly, prominently and in close proximity to the on-site service representation.

Part II of the proposed order provides that Tiger Direct shall provide warranty service within a reasonable period of time after receiving notice from a consumer of a problem. The order defines a reasonable period of time as the time period specified in respondent's promotional materials and advertisements, or if no time period is specified in respondent's promotional materials and advertisements, a period no longer than thirty (30) days after respondent receives notice from a consumer of a computer problem.

Part III of the proposed order contains provisions designed to remedy respondent's violations of the Warranty Act, the Disclosure Rule and the Pre-Sale Availability Rule. It prohibits respondent from failing to make the text of a warranty readily available; failing to disclose a statement of what the warrantor will not pay for or provide; failing to disclose a step-by-step explanation of the procedure the consumer should follow to obtain warranty service; failing to make the necessary disclosures regarding a consumer's rights under state law; failing to properly designate its warranty as full or limited; and disclaiming any implied warranty except as permitted.

Parts IV and V of the proposed order require Tiger Direct to distribute copies

of the order and written instructions regarding its responsibilities and duties under the order and the Warranty Act, including the Disclosure Rule and the Pre-Sale Availability Rule, to certain current and future personnel. Part VI of the proposed order requires Tiger Direct to maintain copies of all such written instructions, as well as copies of warranties and advertising exemplars. Part VII of the proposed order requires Tiger Direct to notify the Commission of any changes in its corporate structure that might affect compliance with the order. Part VIII of the order requires Tiger Direct to file with the Commission one or more reports detailing compliance with the order.

Lastly, Part IX of the proposed order provides for termination of the order after twenty (20) years under certain circumstances.

The purpose of this analysis is to facilitate public comment on the proposed order, and it is not intended to constitute an official interpretation of the agreement and proposed order, or to modify any of their terms.

By Direction of the Commission.

Donald S. Clark,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 99-15839 Filed 6-21-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6750-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Agency for Health Care Policy and Research

Request for Expressions of Interest ("RFEI")

A. Background

In January, 1999, the Agency for Health Care Policy and Research (AHCPR) published a request for applications (RFA: HS-99-003, Translating Evidence into Practice [TRIP]) to conduct research related to implementing evidence-based tools and information in diverse health care settings among practitioners caring for diverse populations. Applications were sought for studies that applied innovative strategies for implementing evidence-based tools and information and would be able to demonstrate improved clinical practice and sustained practitioner behavior change.

In fiscal year 2000, AHCPR plans to publish a second research solicitation focused on translating research into practice (TRIP-II). The aim of this solicitation will be to encourage partnerships between health care systems (e.g., integrated health service

delivery systems, academic health systems, managed care programs including HMOs, practice networks, etc.) and researchers to evaluate the effectiveness of different strategies for improving the quality of care. To concentrate the TRIP-II effort, we will ask partners to address at least one of the following priorities:

- The six focus areas selected by the Department of Health and Human Services in which racial and ethnic minorities experience serious disparities in health access and outcomes:

- (a) Infant Mortality
 - (b) Cancer Screening and Management
 - (c) Cardiovascular Disease
 - (d) Diabetes
 - (e) HIV Infection/AIDS
 - (f) Immunizations
- Pediatric Asthma
 - Medical Errors and Patient Safety

AHCPR has a particular interest in health systems that utilize the strengths of information systems for implementing strategies for quality improvement.

B. Purpose

The purpose of this **Federal Register** Notice is to identify health care systems which have begun or plan to develop programs in the above referenced areas and would be willing to partner with a research team in response to the TRIP-II solicitation. When the TRIP-II solicitation (request for applications or RFA) is published, health care systems interested in exploring partnerships with researchers will be listed in the RFA. Health care systems which have already established relationships with researchers—either internally or in academic settings—and who do not wish to be listed in the RFA itself will be eligible to apply. Health care systems which do not have existing relationships with researchers and choose not to respond to this RFEI are not precluded from responding with appropriate research partners to the TRIP-II RFA. The benefit of responding to this RFEI, however, will be helpful in facilitating the development of those relationships.

Along with a letter expressing interest in partnerships, we would also appreciate suggestions and ideas regarding how AHCPR can encourage meaningful partnerships between researchers and health care systems. Suggestions and ideas are welcome independent of letters expressing interest.

C. Dates

We are requesting that letters of interest be submitted no later than August 4, 1999. These letters should