

## Taking Account...

### BEA to Host Industry Accounts Conference

The Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) will host a 1-day conference for users of its industry accounts on Friday, October 26th at BEA's offices in Washington, D.C.

The conference will feature sessions on a broad range of industry accounts activity, including the following:

- The new benchmark input-output (I-O) accounts for 2002, which are scheduled to be released in the fall
- Industry research and development estimates, which are scheduled to be updated in the fall
- The relationship between the benchmark I-O and the annual industry accounts and the national income and product accounts.
- Plans for developing quarterly gross-domestic-product-by-industry estimates

In addition, three presenters from outside of BEA will discuss the following:

- How the benchmark I-O is used for employment projections by the Bureau of Labor Statistics
- How the annual I-O accounts are used for productivity analysis at the Federal Reserve Board

- How the benchmark I-O accounts are used by Inforum to estimate constant-price time series of I-O tables

There is no fee to attend, but registration is required.

A link to register and a preliminary agenda can be found on the BEA Web site at [www.bea.gov/industry/ind\\_conf\\_datausers2007.htm](http://www.bea.gov/industry/ind_conf_datausers2007.htm).

### Electronic Data Collection Enhanced at BEA

While many of BEA's statistics are based on data from other organizations, BEA has long collected primary source data for its international statistics via direct surveys, nearly all of which are mandatory.

In 2000, BEA started collecting information from survey respondents electronically. Since then, users have gradually migrated from paper submissions to electronic submissions. BEA has continually worked to improve its automated filing services. And late last year, it launched an updated system, called eFile, that offers even more respondent benefits.

Currently, 9 of 16 surveys can be filed via eFile. But over the coming months, BEA will phase out the old system, known as the Automated Survey Transmission and Retrieval system, and

make eFile available for all surveys. It is also planning to roll out several technical enhancements to the new system.

A brief history and overview of the agency's electronic filing plans is on the BEA Web site at [www.bea.gov/papers/pdf/KuGraf\\_ICES.pdf](http://www.bea.gov/papers/pdf/KuGraf_ICES.pdf).

### BEA Web Site FAQ Answers Many Questions

Need more information about imports in the annual and benchmark I-O accounts?

Entering "imports" and "I-O accounts" into the keyword search field in BEA's FAQ will get you some quick answers, notably an explanation of import matrixes and how import values are imputed. You'll also get a link to the import matrixes on the BEA Web site.

There are many more question-and-answers items in the FAQ service, which covers all aspects of BEA's statistics and services in an easy-to-use format.

Since it was launched in March 2006, the FAQ has become a valuable tool for users in need of quick answers about BEA's accounts. The FAQ allows users to search for answers by categories and various keyword searches. The services is available on the BEA Web site by clicking on "FAQ."