

universities to improve advanced manufacturing technologies and practices; and (3) work with the Technology Administration and the Institute and, as appropriate, other Federal agencies to accelerate the transfer to United States companies of manufacturing research and innovations developed at universities." The definition of United States company for the purposes of this act is provided in the section covering eligibility for the ATP above.

Although not specifically intended to support the operations of consortia, a number of other federal programs which are designed to support industrial innovation may contribute funds to consortia activities. These might include; the Manufacturing Extension Partnership (Manufacturing Technology Centres), Engineering Research Centres (18), Energy Related Inventions, Fossil Energy Research Development Program, Renewable Energy Research Development Program, Superfund Innovative Technology Evaluation Program, NASA Industrial Applications Centre, Forest Products Laboratory and the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Program. As an example of such programs, eligibility for the SBIR program is described below:

The Small Business Innovation Research Program is informally restrictive through the use of discretion in deciding eligibility for assistance grants. Only small businesses, as defined by law, may apply. In addition, small businesses are subject to specific eligibility requirements established by the Small Business Administration such as the requirement that they be more than 51% owned by U.S. citizens. With certain projects, small businesses may be ineligible for grants due to requirements for maintaining national security classifications.

Regulations that Apply to All Departments and Agencies

CRADAs, Cooperative Research and Development Agreements are legally distinct funding instruments that may be used to support a whole variety of research and development activities. For example, in 1994 it is projected that the U.S. federal government will spend approximately US \$3 billion on some 1700 CRADAs. These agreements, which may be used by any federal department or agency, have restrictions placed on them in the statutes as follows. Title 15 USC 3710a (c) 4B, dealing with CRADAs, refers to a special consideration for small business firms and consortia involving small business firms. It also gives preference to firms with a U.S. location for research and to companies agreeing that products embodying inventions made under the CRADA will be manufactured substantially in the U.S.. This means that even if the eligibility criteria of a given funding program permit the participation of foreign owned subsidiaries in a research project, the use of a CRADA as a funding instrument could add further limitations on the activities of the consortium so as to discourage the participation of foreign members.

