



October 26, 2016

Dear Stationery Product Manufacturers,

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) is currently visiting firms to update the sample of goods and services comprising the monthly Producer Price Index (PPI) data for our industry. I encourage your participation in this important effort.

Sound economic policy and successful business planning require reliable, accurate, and timely data. The PPI is one of the Nation's primary measures of price change for goods and services produced in the U.S. The quality of PPI data depends greatly on the number of businesses responding to the PPI survey, so your participation helps us all. If you are called upon to volunteer, you need only contribute a few minutes per month to provide information on a selection of your firm's transactions. All data is used for statistical purposes only and in aggregated form, so no individual firm is identifiable. Please see <http://www.bls.gov/respondents/ppi/home.htm> for more information about participating in the survey.

The BLS wants your experience as a survey respondent to be a valuable one. You will be assigned an economist who can assist you not only with reporting prices but also by answering your questions about PPI data. The PPI program tracks prices for most goods and services produced in the United States and all indexes are available for free online at <http://www.bls.gov/ppi>. PPI data for the stationery product industry have been published monthly since 1947.

Thank you in advance for your assistance,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Maynard H. Benjamin'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Maynard H. Benjamin, CAE, FSAE
President & CEO