

July 1966  
(Revised)

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20234

Letter Circular  
LC 1019

### NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS REPORTS

The Bureau has received a number of inquiries from librarians and others regarding the nature and availability of National Bureau of Standards Reports and their relationship to the Bureau's formal publications program. The following explanation of this series has been prepared to answer such inquiries.

NBS Reports are used mainly as the means of reporting to Government agencies the results of investigations on research projects sponsored by the agencies. They often contain preliminary, unevaluated results, but whether preliminary or complete, a majority of these reports have the status of private communications to the sponsoring agencies. For these reasons the reports seldom receive other than a need-to-know distribution as determined by the sponsors. There is no general distribution and no published listing of these reports.

In accordance with this policy NBS Reports should not be reproduced in whole or part, nor should they be referred to in the open literature unless permission is obtained in writing from the Office of Technical Information and Publications, National Bureau of Standards.

Results growing out of investigations first reported in NBS Reports, that are of permanent value worthy of the open literature, are made available in the Bureau's formal publications or in the journals of the scientific and professional societies. Bureau publications include two periodicals (Journal of Research and Technical News Bulletin), and eight nonperiodicals (Applied Mathematics Series, Monographs, Handbooks, Miscellaneous Publications, Technical Notes, National Standard Reference Data Series, Building Science Series, and Product Standards). These are available from the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. 20402; the nonperiodicals are also available from the Clearinghouse for Federal Scientific and Technical Information, Springfield, Virginia 22151; or from local U. S. Department of Commerce Field Offices.

The Technical News Bulletin affords the best means of keeping abreast of NBS publications. In addition to concise summary articles of current NBS work, this monthly periodical lists all papers by NBS staff members, both in Bureau publications and outside journals. It is available on a 1, 2, or 3-year subscription basis from the Superintendent of Documents.

