

January 22, 2008

The Honorable Harry Reid Majority Leader United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell Republican Leader United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Majority Leader Reid and Republican Leader McConnell:

As the second session of the 110th Congress begins, supporters of patent reform and the Coalition for Patent Fairness—an alliance of large and small businesses and associations in the technology, financial services, energy, chemical, manufacturing and media industries—wish to express our strong support for S.1145, the Patent Reform Act of 2007, and urge that the bill be scheduled for floor action without delay. This bill will stimulate American innovation, growth and competitiveness by restoring balance to our patent system. In the end, it will benefit both American workers and American consumers.

S. 1145 is the result of years of deliberation, dozens of House and Senate hearings, and more than 150 stakeholder meetings during which diverse interests have made numerous compromises. On July 19, 2007, the Senate Judiciary Committee reported out S. 1145 and the House passed its companion bill (H.R. 1908) in September. The full Senate now has the chance to restore balance to our patent system, allowing innovation to flourish unfettered by the current rules that degrade patent quality and encourage gaming of the system.

For the past several years, the chorus of those calling for reform has grown louder and clearer. Proponents of comprehensive patent reform include top legal scholars and economists, the Federal Trade Commission, the U.S. Solicitor General, the National Academy of Sciences, the Council on Foreign Relations, numerous editorial boards and a wide array of businesses both large and small.

After years of debate and compromise, of calls to action and careful examination, the time is now to pass the Patent Reform Act of 2007. We urge you to bring this bill to the floor as soon as possible.

Cc: Members of the United States Senate

Sincerely,

Adobe Systems Incorporated San Jose, CA

Advanced Systems & Technologies, LLC Louisville, KY

Agilent Technologies, Inc. Santa Clara, CA **AgilIT** Troy, OH

Amazon.com Seattle, WA

American Agricultural Movement, Inc. Haven, KS **American Bankers Association** Washington, DC

American Corn Growers Association Sheffield, IL

Apple Cupertino, CA

Applied Materials, Inc. Santa Clara, CA

Arizona Technology Council Phoenix, AZ

Aruba Networks, Inc. Sunnyvale, CA

Associated Dental Labs of Kentucky Louisville, KY

Atheros Communications, Inc. Santa Clara, CA

Authoria Waltham, MA

Autodesk, Inc. San Rafael, CA

Avaya Inc. Basking Ridge, NJ

Bank of America Charlotte, NC

Beatnik, Inc. San Mateo, CA

Business Software Alliance Washington, DC

CA, Inc. Islandia, NY

Cadence Design Systems, Inc. San Jose, CA

California Bankers Association Sacramento, CA Capital One McLean, VA

Charter Communications St. Louis, MO

Chevron Corporation San Ramon, CA

Chouteau Chamber of Commerce Chouteau, OK

Ciena Corporation Linthicum, MD

Cisco Systems San Jose, CA

Citigroup New York, NY

Comcast Corporation Philadelphia, PA

Compass Bancshares, Inc. Birmingham, AL

Computer & Communications Industry Association Washington, DC

Computing Technology Industry Association Oakbrook Terrace, IL

Consumers for Competitive Choice Greenwood, IN

Copernio Holding Company Huntington Beach, CA

Cox Communications, Inc. Atlanta, GA

Coyote Creek Consulting San Jose, CA

Cratin Computing Co., Inc. Fort Washington, PA

Dalhart Area Chamber of Commerce Dalhart, TX **Deaf Smith County Chamber** Hereford, TX

Delaware Bankers Association Dover, DE

Dell Round Rock, TX

Draper Area Chamber of Commerce Draper, UT

Duluth Chamber of Commerce Duluth, GA

eBay Inc. San Jose, CA

Electronic Verification Systems, LLC Louisville, KY

EMBARQ Overland Park, KS

EMC Corporation Hopkinton, MA

Federation of Southern Cooperatives East Point, GA

Fidelity Investments Boston, MA

First Horizon National Corporation Memphis, TN

First Landing Partners Virginia Beach, VA

Florida Bankers Association Tallahassee, FL

Genworth Financial, Inc. Richmond, VA

Georgia Bankers Association Atlanta, GA

Google Inc. Mountain View, CA **Guymon Chamber of Commerce** Guymon, OK

Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce Duluth, GA

Hampton Roads Technology Council Hampton, VA

Hampton Roads Technology Incubator System Hampton, VA

Hewlett-Packard Company Palo Alto, CA

Holbrook Chamber of Commerce Holbrook, AZ

HSBC North America Prospect Heights, IL

HUB Technology South Easton, MA

Huntington Bancshares Incorporated Columbus, OH

Illinois Bankers Association Springfield, IL

Illinois Technology Association Chicago, IL

IM Flash Technologies Lehi, UT

Infineon Technologies North America Corp. Milpitas, CA

Information Technology Association of America Arlington, VA

Information Technology Industry Council Washington, DC

Initiative for Software Choice Washington, DC **Intel** Santa Clara, CA

Internet Commerce Coalition Washington, DC

Intuit, Inc. Mountain View, CA

Iowa Bankers Association Johnston, IA

JDSU Milpitas, CA

JP Morgan Chase New York, NY

Juniper Networks, Inc. Sunnyvale, CA

Kalido Burlington, MA

Kortek Services Las Vegas, NV

Leap Frog Interactive, Inc. Louisville, KY

Leap Frog Small Business Louisville, KY

Lehi Area Chamber of Commerce Lehi, UT

Lenovo Raleigh, NC

Lexmark International Lexington, KY

Maine Bankers Association Augusta, ME

Maryland Bankers Association Annapolis, MD

Massachusetts Technology Leadership Council, Inc. Boston, MA MasterCard Worldwide Purchase, NY

McAfee, Inc. Santa Clara, CA

Michigan Bankers Association Lansing, MI

Micron Technology, Inc. Boise, ID

Microsoft Redmond, WA

Molecular Watertown, MA

Monster.com New York, NY

National Association of Farmer Elected Committees Okawville, IL

National Association of Realtors Chicago, IL

National Grange Washington, DC

National Semiconductor Corporation Santa Clara, CA

Nationwide Columbus, OH

NCR Corporation Dayton, OH

NetApp Sunnyvale, CA

Netflix Los Gatos, CA

Newegg Inc. City of Industry, CA

News Corporation New York, NY **North Carolina Bankers Association** Raleigh, NC

Northern Virginia Technology Council Herndon, VA

Novell, Inc. Provo, UT

Numenta, Inc. Menlo Park, CA

Omni Benefits Group Des Moines, IA

OpenAir, Inc. Boston, MA

Oracle Redwood Shores, CA

Page Belting Company Concord, NH

Palm, Inc. Sunnyvale, CA

Pennsylvania Bankers Association Harrisburg, PA

Precision Bookkeeping Inc. Portland, ME

Provo-Orem Chamber of Commerce Provo, UT

Qimonda North America Cary, NC

R.E. Development Des Moines, IA

Red Five Interactive, Inc. Des Moines, IA

Red Hat Raleigh, NC

Reed Elsevier Inc. New York, NY **Regions Financial Corp.** Birmingham, AL

RIM Dallas, TX

Rural Coalition Washington, DC

Salesforce.com, Inc. San Francisco, CA

San Jose Silicon Valley Chamber of Commerce San Jose, CA

SAP Newtown Square, PA

SAS Institute Cary, NC

Seagate Technology Scotts Valley, CA

Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association New York, NY

SkillSoft Nashua, NH

Software & Information Industry Association Washington, DC

Sonnet Technologies, Inc. Irvine, CA

Sternhill Partners Houston, TX

Steton Technology Group St. George, UT

Sun Microsystems, Inc. Menlo Park, CA

Swan Financial Louisville, KY **Sybase, Inc.** Dublin, CA

Symantec Corporation Cupertino, CA

Synopsys, Inc. Mountain View, CA

TechNet Washington, DC

Technology Council of Central Pennsylvania Harrisburg, PA

TechQuest Pennsylvania Harrisburg, PA

Tennessee Bankers Association Nashville, TN

Teradata Corporation Miamisburg, OH

The Financial Services Roundtable Washington, DC

Time Warner New York, NY

VeriSign, Inc. Mountain View, CA

Viacom Inc. New York, NY Victoria Chamber of Commerce Victoria, TX

Virginia Bankers Association Glen Allen, VA

Visa Inc. San Francisco, CA

Visi-Trak Sensors, LLC Charlottesville, VA

Visi-Trak Worldwide, LLC Valley View, OH

Wachovia Corporation Charlotte, NC

WASCO Manufacturing Inc. Monroe, GA

Wells Fargo & Co. San Francisco, CA

Western Digital Corporation Lake Forest, CA

Xilinx, Inc. San Jose, CA

Yahoo! Inc. Sunnyvale, CA

ZSL, Inc. Edison, NJ