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January 30, 2012

**VIA E-MAIL SATELLITEOFFICES@USPTO.GOV**

The Honorable David Kappos  
Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property  
Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313

Attention: Mr. Azam Khan

Dear Director Kappos and Mr. Khan:

As the largest law firm in Oregon, we are writing in support of the proposal to locate a satellite office of the United States Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) in Portland, Oregon.

Our firm has a very strong intellectual property and patent practice. Over the past 50 years, we have represented leading technology companies on a broad range of projects. We were one of the first general practice law firms in the country to establish a patent practice, and today employ over 40 lawyers serving technology clients around the world. Our technology attorneys include former law clerks from the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, nationally recognized patent reexamination experts, adjunct professors teaching patent law courses, and former patent examiners.

Attracting and retaining talented people is a key to our success, and Portland is a market that is attractive to legal and business professionals. The Portland region has a significant concentration of entrepreneurs, and offers its residents a unique and enviable combination of extraordinary nearby recreational choices, a mild year-round climate, and a very livable and affordable metropolitan environment.

These attributes enable us to attract talent, as is evidenced in our designation in US News & World Report's "Best Law Firms in America" as one of the top 20 U.S. law firms for national quality practices. A very high percentage of our partners are also consistently listed in Chambers USA, Best Lawyers in America, and Super Lawyers.



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We believe the combination of being a leading location for technology companies and professionals, and one of the most livable and affordable cities in the country, makes Portland an ideal location in which to locate a satellite office of the Patent and Trademark office.

Very truly yours,

Robert D. Van Brocklin  
Firm Managing Partner

cc: Mr. Jay Ward (via email: [Jay\\_Ward@wyden.senate.gov](mailto:Jay_Ward@wyden.senate.gov))  
Ms. Graciela Cowger (via email: [cowger@stofoco.com](mailto:cowger@stofoco.com))