



**NEWS
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Thursday, July 23, 2009

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IT Industry Joins in Urging Congress to Oppose Tax Changes That Would Undermine America's Global Business Champions

WASHINGTON, DC –Leaders of the information technology (IT) industry are joining with their colleagues in other industries in calling on Congress to maintain pro-competitive US international corporate tax policies and oppose piecemeal tax changes that would undermine the ability of US companies to compete in overseas markets.

In a letter sent today to key members of Congress, almost 300 companies and industry associations state their strong opposition to Administration proposals to end "deferral" and other tax law provisions that help American companies compete on a level playing field in the United States and around the world.

Among the signatories are the Business Software Alliance (BSA), more than a dozen of its members (Adobe, Apple, CA, Cadence, Cisco, Dell, Hewlett-Packard, IBM, Intel, McAfee, Microsoft, Sybase, Symantec, Synopsys), and many other high-tech companies and groups.

"The computer software and hardware industries are some of America's leading champions in global markets," says Robert Holleyman, President and CEO of BSA. "Consider that overseas sales account for more than 50 percent of revenues for most of BSA's publicly traded member companies, and about 60 percent of global spending on PC software is paid to US-based software companies. Software also is one of the few American industries that runs a trade surplus – an estimated \$36 billion in 2008.

"Clearly, any tax proposal that would affect the software industry's ability to compete in overseas markets would have a serious impact on our ability to create jobs and solutions to America's challenges. In fact, it would create an incentive to move operations out of the United States or to withdraw from foreign markets. Either way, it's a lose-lose situation for American workers and taxpayers," Holleyman said.

The letter says American industry supports closing tax loopholes and prosecuting those who cheat on their taxes but it is "inaccurate and misleading" to depict the international tax provisions as tax loopholes.

The complete letter and list of signatories are posted online at www.pace4jobs.org.

About BSA:

The Business Software Alliance (www.bsa.org) is the voice of the world's commercial software industry and its hardware partners before governments and in the international marketplace. BSA members include Adobe, Apple, Autodesk, Bentley Systems, CA, Cadence, Cisco Systems, Corel, CyberLink, Dassault Systèmes SolidWorks Corporation, Dell, Embarcadero, HP, IBM, Intel, Intuit, McAfee, Microsoft, Minitab, Quark, Quest Software, Rosetta Stone, SAP, Siemens, Sybase, Symantec, and The MathWorks.

Editor's Note: BSA's complete US Technology Policy Agenda is online [here](#).

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