



OPPORTUNITY for the USPTO Satellite Office

San José Capital of Silicon Valley

Number 1 producer of patents in the nation

Highly skilled workforce

Concentration of global headquarters of multinational corporations

Home to top universities and leading research institutions

January 26, 2012

David Kappos
Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property
Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office
Department of Commerce
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Under Secretary Kappos:

I am pleased to provide comments on a U.S. Patent and Trademark Satellite Office for the Nationwide Workforce Program. The attached proposal is endorsed by Silicon Valley corporations and universities.

As the Capital of Silicon Valley, the innovation center of the world, and the city that leads the nation in patent applications, San José, California is the ideal location for a satellite office for the US Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO).

With our highly skilled workforce combined with training from top tier universities like Stanford, UC Berkeley, San José State, and Santa Clara, Silicon Valley offers an experienced workforce and a pipeline to fill the needs of the USPTO today and in the future.

San José/Silicon Valley is home to global headquarters of many multinational corporations, thousands of technology companies, and emerging start ups in a variety of industries. A Silicon Valley USPTO will facilitate communication with patent filers from our technology community, shorten the time to process applications and reduce the USPTO backlog.

I am eager to discuss this proposal with you and find ways to support your needs. Please call me at (408) 535-4800.

Sincerely,

Chuck Reed

Chuck Reed
Mayor

SILICON VALLEY IS THE WORLD'S CENTER OF INNOVATION

As the capital of Silicon Valley, San José, California is the ideal location for a new United States Patent and Trademark satellite office.

Silicon Valley, California's economic engine, leads the nation in patent production, with five of the top ten patent-producing cities in the nation located here. Topping the list, at No. 1, is San José. From Fortune 500 companies to the latest emerging start-up, San José and Silicon Valley are home to a diverse array of established and emerging technologies. Leading research universities, national laboratories, and venture capital firms help make Silicon Valley the world's center of innovation.

Keeping America competitive requires Silicon Valley-style innovation, placing patent officers and attorneys in the same geographic place with the innovators and creators of new technologies, and allowing for new methods of filing applications and means to processing applications faster.

Our corporate innovators, together with local universities featuring some of the nation's best engineering and law schools, workforce training organizations, and local governments are eager to work with the USPTO to create a model satellite office.

COLLABORATION WILL HELP WITH RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

San José and our partners are committed to help the USPTO train, hire and retain high quality employees. Our region has one of the most robust pools of engineering talent available to fill patent officer positions both in new graduates and in mid-career and seasoned professionals. The San José and San Francisco Metropolitan Areas are home to more than 160,800 engineers, representing 4% of the total workforce.

Together, San José State University, University of California at Berkeley, University of California at Santa Cruz, Stanford University, and Santa Clara University graduate approximately 3,500 engineering majors annually. These graduates strive to remain in the Bay Area after graduation; for example, 78% of San José State University's engineering graduates stay in the area. Salaries for first-year engineering graduates from our local universities are in the same ballpark (at an average \$67,626 per year) with the entry level GS9 salary for a US Patent Officer (\$60,682). When the benefits package is taken into consideration, the patent officer position becomes more attractive.

We propose to streamline the training time for new patent officers. Working in collaboration with our local universities, we will develop a concurrent certification program for engineering students, resulting in graduates who are poised to serve as patent officers immediately after graduation.

A Silicon Valley satellite office not only will have access to new graduates, but also to experienced engineers with expertise in a wide variety of technologies. Currently, our

regional workforce investment boards have an estimated pool of 1,800 engineers enrolled for re-employment services. Our workforce investment boards are committed to recruiting a well-qualified pool of engineers to meet the USPTO's staffing needs.

A WIDE RANGE OF OPPORTUNITIES FOR LOWER COST HOUSING

San José can meet the diverse housing needs of USPTO employees. While California does have a higher cost of living than many other states, so do other of our nation's most innovative and patent-rich regions. What those regions do not offer is access to a variety of housing needs at a variety of price points, and infrastructure to enable employees to telecommute or travel via the regional rail network that converges in downtown San José. The ability to telecommute will enhance the ability to link Patent Office positions with a diverse group of engineers from throughout our broader catchment area. All of our proposed real estate options are readily equipped for alternative work schedules and telecommunication.

Additionally, the catchment area for our proposal provides lower cost of living options in the broader region – including the MSAs of Merced and Stockton (\$117,000 median home price) and Salinas (\$245,000 median home price) – as well as other parts of the greater Bay Area that offer a wide range of lower and moderately priced housing options.

UNPARALLELED BENEFITS OF LOCATING IN SILICON VALLEY

The Silicon Valley is home to hundreds of patent-producing technology companies, in fields ranging from Clean Technology, Bioscience, Computer Hardware and Software and Transportation. It is not surprising that 12% of all patents issued in the last thirty years originated in Silicon Valley, or that five of the top ten cities for patents filed are here. When one looks at the state as a whole, one finds seven of the top ten cities in California, six in the Bay Area alone. In 2009, more than 10,000 patent registrations were filed by Silicon Valley inventors.

For the U.S. to be more competitive with technology regions throughout the world, patent-generators need to be close to the USPTO. This close proximity will cut down on the backlog of applications awaiting examination, and will connect patent filers and innovators with the USPTO, providing insight into emerging technologies and improving speed to marketplace.

Downtown San José provides the critical connections to enable a Silicon Valley site to work. Downtown San José is connected to Silicon Valley, the San Francisco Bay Area, California, the nation, and the world through an extensive transportation network. Residents throughout Northern and Central California would have convenient access to a USPTO office, by freeway or by rail. Caltrain, Capitol Corridor, Amtrak, and the ACE trains all make multiple daily stops at the Diridon Station in downtown San José, as will the BART system as it expands into downtown San José. The Valley Transportation Authority efficiently connects cities throughout Santa Clara County.

Silicon Valley's proximity to Asia poses a distinct advantage serving as a hub to Western US and Asia. Twelve airlines provide 19 daily flights to Asia. Many of Asia's leading technology companies are large employers in the Silicon Valley, including Hitachi, Sony, Canon, and Samsung. Today, most patents are filed by two or more inventors, and many Asian inventors co-apply with California inventors, accounting for 40% of all patents issued in the United States.

Placing the satellite office where the innovators are will facilitate meetings, allow opportunities to grow the American economy and encourage new innovations. With its accessible geography and global connections, San José is the ideal location for the USPTO satellite office.

A LARGE AND TALENTED WORKFORCE IS AVAILABLE

Overview

Key to Silicon Valley's global economic success is the region's skilled labor force. With one of the most talented workforces in the world, the region is ideal for employers seeking exceptional talent, including the USPTO.

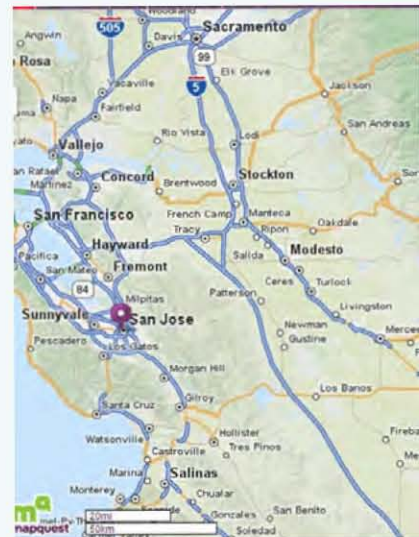
Silicon Valley businesses have longstanding links to national laboratories and top-tier institutions of higher education, including Stanford University, the University of California at Berkeley, University of California at Santa Cruz, San José State University, and Santa Clara University. In total, the region is home to more than 100 public and private universities and colleges that collectively awarded 78,000 degrees in 2009, including more than 30,000 bachelor's degrees and 20,000 post-graduate degrees.

More than 43% of adults in the San José metro area have a bachelor's degree or higher, compared with 28% of all U.S. adults.

Regional Catchment Workforce Strategy

The jobs created through the San José U.S. Patent Satellite Office will tap into a large, diverse, and highly skilled talent pool that stretches from the Salinas/Monterey MSA to the Sacramento MSA. Key highlights include the following:

- The 11 counties comprising the broader catchment area are home to 7.67 million residents with a workforce of 3.85 million; and of this more than 160,800 are engineers, representing 4% of the total workforce;



The regional catchment area consists of the following Counties—Santa Clara, San Mateo, San Francisco, Contra Costa, Alameda, Merced, Stanislaus, Monterey, San Benito, Sacramento, and Santa Cruz and San Joaquin.

- The San José and San Francisco MSAs alone are home to 1.7 million residents with a workforce of 1.2 million, more than 108,000 of whom are engineers (representing almost 9% of the workforce), far in excess of many other areas; for example, Boulder, CO has 2,982 engineers, San Diego has 36,052 and Los Angeles has 95,052; and
- San José State University, University of California at Berkeley, University of California at Santa Cruz, Stanford University and Santa Clara University annually graduate approximately 3,500 students with degrees in engineering, of which 52% have earned bachelor's degrees, 45% master's, and 3% doctorates. These degrees are in disciplines including Civil Engineering, Computer Science Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Industrial and Systems Engineering, and Software Engineering.

By establishing a 21st Century office that provides for the ability to telecommute and implement alternate work schedules, the USPTO will expand its reach to a diverse group of appropriately skilled engineers from our broader catchment area. Over the past 25 years, California commute patterns have changed, expanding the catchment area for Silicon Valley employers. More recently, inter-regional commuter workflow has grown significantly: Merced-to-Santa Clara County commutes grew by 406%, while Monterey-to-Santa Clara increased 141% and San Benito-to-Santa Clara grew 114%. Additionally, traditional patterns have shifted with the near doubling of commuters residing in San Francisco and working in Santa Clara County.

San José Transit Access



This data shows the opportunity to tap this broader catchment area, placing Silicon Valley in a unique position to not only recruit skilled talent for a USPTO satellite office, but to also leverage the lower cost of living that the broader catchment area offers. Most urban areas in the catchment area have lower costs-of-living – and lower median salaries – than the San José metro area, making positions at the USPTO attractive. Median incomes in lower-cost areas within the catchment area are: Salinas \$40,403, Merced \$34,997, Stockton \$39,842 and Sacramento \$51,280.

Links with Regional Workforce Investment Boards and Partners

Key to the recruitment and retention strategy for a San José USPTO satellite office will be the establishment of strong institutional linkages between the regional workforce investment boards and the new office. This effort will be led by the work2future workforce investment board located within the City of San José's Office of Economic Development.

work2future addresses regional workforce and economic development needs in collaboration with small and large businesses, educational institutions, and community-based organizations.

work2future serves thousands of diverse job seekers annually and works with employers throughout the broader catchment area to maximize their access to qualified job seekers.

Currently, work2future and its workforce partners have an estimated pool of 1,800 engineers enrolled for re-employment services, many of whom have the expertise and experience needed for positions within the USPTO. A recent survey of work2future clients who self-identified as working in science, technology, engineering, or mathematics revealed that 72% have a bachelor's or master's degree, while 54% have 10 years or more experience in the field.

To access and recruit a well-qualified pool of engineers, work2future will put in place a Talent Pipeline Agreement with workforce investment board partners throughout Northern California, including Santa Cruz, Monterey, San Mateo, San Francisco, NOVA, East Bay Works, Sacramento, Merced, and Modesto. The agreement will result in a focused and comprehensive ongoing program for recruiting and retaining the workforce talent required for this project.

Salary and Education

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office will find an attractive climate in San José for recruiting and retaining talent. The USPTO offers comparable salaries and attractive benefit packages to those offered the current workforce. For example, in the catchment area, the Mean Annual Salary for mid-level engineers is \$99,393 per year, compared with \$108,000 per year for the mid-level GS13. When the attractive benefit package offered by the USPTO is factored in, compensation becomes even more competitive.

Table 1 - Engineer All Occupations Mean Annual Salary

MSA	Mean Annual Salary Current Workforce	GS Mid-Level Salary
San José-Sunnyvale-Santa Clara MSA-Counties of San Benito and Santa Clara	\$112,724.00	\$108,036.00
Merced MSA, CA	\$84,581.00	\$108,036.00
Modesto MSA, CA	\$85,482.00	\$108,036.00
Oakland-Fremont-Hayward MD, CA	\$102,559.00	\$108,036.00
Sacramento-Arden Arcade-Roseville MSA, CA	\$96,383.00	\$108,036.00
Salinas MSA, CA	\$92,974.00	\$108,036.00
San Francisco-San Mateo-Redwood City MD, CA	\$99,846.00	\$108,036.00
Santa Cruz-Watsonville MSA, CA	\$92,099.00	\$108,036.00
Stockton MSA, CA	\$82,892.00	\$108,036.00

SOURCE: California Employment Development Department - U.S. Census Bureau - 2009 American Community Survey

Entry-level GS9 USPTO positions also compete well with existing salaries for first-year graduates from our local universities. The average engineering graduate with a bachelor's degree earns an average entry-level salary of \$67,626, which is equivalent to the GS9 starting salary of \$60,682 when the benefits packaged is factored in.

Table 2 - Engineering Graduates

Fields	College Salary (MS) (mean)	College Salary (BS) (mean)	GS9 Entry-Level Salary
Civil Engineering	\$67,639	\$65,887	\$60,682
Computer Science Engineers	\$84,515	\$74,439	\$60,682
Electrical Engineers	\$80,281	\$66,186	\$60,682
Management Science Engineers	\$85,405	\$65,482	\$60,682
Mechanical Engineers	\$79,241	\$66,136	\$60,682

SOURCES: U.S. Department of Commerce - California Bureau of Economic Analysis - California University System Graduation Salary Data - Wage and Employment data from U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

In looking at other Bay Area-based federal agencies recruiting specialized positions in the sciences, we found minimal attrition. For example, Lawrence Livermore National Lab reports that attrition has held at levels below 2% since 2009.

INNOVATIVE BUSINESSES ARE READY TO SUPPORT USPTO

Establishing a regional office in Silicon Valley offers several strategic advantages. A San José satellite office would enhance communication between the USPTO and the patent applicant community, facilitate more frequent direct connections between technology experts in the region, reduce travel time for applicants and examiners, and in the end, reduce the number of patents pending in the system. For these reasons, Silicon Valley's business community supports this proposal.

Unique Cluster of Innovative Companies

Silicon Valley is home to the world's most innovative companies, from established multinationals employing hundreds of thousands of people around the globe to a multitude of startups working to create the revolutionary products of tomorrow.

The Silicon Valley Patent Office application is supported by leading companies, including:

- Adobe
- Facebook
- Applied Materials
- Dell
- Hewlett-Packard

*For a comprehensive list of supporting companies, please see Appendix.

The region's unique culture of collaboration and competition fosters innovation that goes well beyond company boundaries. Silicon Valley corporations join together through a number of business and civic associations to promote regional goals and work to solve regional challenges. Organizations partnering with San José to create a successful regional patent office include:

The Silicon Valley Leadership Group: founded by David Packard, a public policy trade association with 365 member company CEOs, representing almost one-third of the private sector jobs in the area, including all of the major high tech, clean-tech and biotech companies.

Joint Venture: provides analysis and action on issues affecting the region's economy and quality of life. The organization brings together established and emerging leaders from government, academia, labor, and the broader community to work toward innovative solutions.

Bay Area Council: The Bay Area Council is a business-sponsored, public policy advocacy organization for the nine-county Bay Area. The Council proactively advocates for a strong economy, a vital business environment, and a better quality of life for all residents.

Silicon Valley/San José Chamber of Commerce: The Silicon Valley's oldest business organization with nearly 1,500 members who represent nearly 250,000 employees.

BayBio: The Bay Area Bioscience Association is a trade association for Northern California's life science community, representing more than 450 companies.

New Processes

Designating a regional patent office in Silicon Valley will draw on the area's highly skilled talent pool of scientists, engineers, and attorneys who are technically skilled and can speed the patent approval process.

Silicon Valley companies are ready to work with the USPTO to speed up patent applications. Communications between USPTO staff and applicants will improve through more frequent in-person meetings. Corporations are ready to partner and develop new protocol for exchanging information and creating processes tailored to Silicon Valley culture and work flow. This new model will speed processing time and reduce application backlog.

Benefits of Close Proximity to Applicants

By locating a patent office in close proximity to the world's leading innovators, the USPTO will not only improve communications, but will also build close working relationships between examiners and applicants, ensuring the approval of high-quality patents. Turn-around time on applications will be reduced. When unresolved issues arise, examiners will be able to meet more frequently or on shorter notice with the patent applicants. Companies will be able to send the most appropriate staff person to meet with examiners as opposed

to sending only those who have time available to make the trip to Alexandria. Large companies with multiple applications will not have to spend as many days or trips, while startups with limited time and resources will be able send engineers and other key staff to meet with examiners with minimal burden. This will ensure that American companies can maintain a competitive edge in a global economy.

Silicon Valley companies will not only provide meeting space for USPTO meetings, trainings, and functions on-site at their campuses, but can also partner with the USPTO to host educational seminars on the emerging technologies or hands-on demonstrations of technologies with pending applications. This is crucial as companies develop and bring cutting-edge technologies to market.

Benefits of Proximity to Asia and the Pacific Rim

Silicon Valley's proximity to Asia poses a distinct advantage. Most patents are filed by two or more inventors, and many Asian inventors co-apply with California inventors, accounting for 40% all patents issued in the United States. Leading technology companies play a large part in the Silicon Valley's economy, including:

- Hitachi – Japan
- Sony – Japan
- Canon – Japan
- LG Electronics – Korea
- Samsung Electronics – Korea
- Hynix Semiconductor America – Korea
- Winbond – Taiwan
- Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Corp. (TSMC) – Taiwan
- Foxconn – Taiwan
- Flextronics - Singapore

WORLD CLASS UNIVERSITIES ARE READY TO HELP USPTO

The Silicon Valley is home to top-tier universities with strong engineering programs including San José State University, University of California at Berkeley, University of California at Santa Cruz, Stanford University, and Santa Clara University. These universities consistently rank among the nation's best engineering programs. U.S. News and World Report in 2012 ranked Stanford second and UC-Berkeley third best in the nation. The two schools tied for first (with MIT) in Computer Engineering.

California's oldest public university, San José State University is the top provider of engineering, science, and business graduates to the Silicon Valley with more than 7,311 students graduating last year. Of those, 1,164 received bachelor's and master's degrees in engineering. The San José State alumni network is robust, with a pipeline of 180,000 graduates living in the Bay Area.

The Bay Area also can meet the USPTO's legal need. The region is home to six top law schools: Santa Clara University School of Law, Stanford Law School, University of California-Berkeley School of Law, University of California Hastings College of the Law, University of San Francisco School of Law, and Golden Gate University School of Law. As befits Silicon Valley, three of the Top 10 Intellectual Property programs in the country (as ranked by U.S. News and World Reports) are here: University of California at Berkeley ranked first; Stanford University, second; and Santa Clara University, eighth.

The Silicon Valley has one of the nation's highest concentration of patent attorneys, and the regional universities have been working to meet this need. For example, Santa Clara University trains patent attorneys through the High Tech Law Institute. Many of these attorneys have the science or engineering background essential in processing patent applications. At Santa Clara University School of Law alone, more than one-quarter of the approximately 1,400 graduates receiving a Juris Doctorate in the past five years have a technical background in either science or engineering.

University Partnerships

Few universities will have the impact on tomorrow's innovations like those that call Silicon Valley home – and these universities are eager to partner to ensure success of the USPTO satellite office.

San José State University's existing partnerships with industry and global entities provide a solid foundation from which to partner with the USPTO and to develop credential and certificate programs that can fast-track graduates into USPTO careers. This will significantly shorten the training time for USPTO employees and prospective employees. In a partnership with SJSU, opportunities for USPTO career employees to guest lecture or even teach courses can be developed. These relationships exist today with many Silicon Valley companies, and the University has a similar relationship with the City of San José.

Students in San José State University's Charles W. Davidson College of Engineering, College of Science, and College of Business today provide a steady source of interns for Silicon Valley innovators. San José State University faculty is ready to collaborate with USPTO internship supervisors to provide rich, structured field-learning experiences for these students. These internships will provide an excellent training opportunity for potential employees of the San José office of the USPTO. By experiencing the workplace and roles within the USPTO, SJSU students will graduate with real world experience that prepares them for careers with the USPTO.

Bay Area universities will be a ready source of subject matter experts and advisors, available for consultation with the San José USPTO staff. At San José State University, for example, the USPTO will be able to access faculty from the Silicon Valley Center for Entrepreneurship, the Global Leadership Advancement Center, the Banking and Financial Services Center, the High-Tech Tax Institute, and the Bay Area Retail Leadership Center, as well as those engaged in applied research in areas such as biomedical device engineering, green engineering, analog and mixed signal design, cybersecurity, climate science and meteorology.

A BROAD RANGE OF REAL ESTATE OPPORTUNITIES

Downtown San José offers a variety of sites, ranging from 5,000 square feet to multiple floors in high-rise office towers, with convenient access to rail and air transportation and major freeways. One prime location in the heart of Downtown is a 20,000-square-foot floor in San José's City Hall. The eighteen-story, Richard Meier-designed building is a LEED-Platinum certified green building, adjacent to San José State University, easily accessible by public transportation, with ample underground parking and restaurants and hotels in walking distance.

Immediate occupancy is also available in new or recently renovated Class A buildings in Downtown San José at reasonable rates, with owners who would welcome USPTO occupancy with flexible space and terms.

San José is home to more than 100,000 daytime workers. Downtown attracts one of the country's most talented workforces. Anchored by tech powerhouses Oracle, Adobe Systems and Acer, Downtown San José is also home to growing companies like Xactly, ICTV and Fat Spaniel, and financial stalwarts PwC and Deloitte. The Downtown features 8.2 million square feet of office space, and 1.4 million square feet of retail space. It is the perfect location for a satellite patent office serving the world's leading innovators.

CONCLUSION

San José offers the USPTO a unique opportunity to work closely with leading universities, research institutions, major corporations and innovative enterprises. By combining a highly skilled workforce with a site that is easily accessible to the world's innovators, the USPTO will greatly reduce the patent backlog and spur American innovation. San José is eager to partner with the USPTO to realize this vision and make a Silicon Valley satellite office a reality.

Thank you for your consideration.

APPENDIX

COMPANIES IN SUPPORT OF A SILICON VALLEY PATENT OFFICE:

Aerospace/Defense

- Lockheed Martin

Bio-Pharma/Bio-Tec/Medical Devices

- Alavita
- Align Technology
- BayBio
- Catalyst Biosciences
- Jan Medical
- Oxford Biotherapeutics
- Varian Medical

Communications Equipment/Networking

- Aviat
- BetterWorld Telecom
- Comcast
- Facebook
- Huawei
- Infinera
- Juniper Networks
- Ooma
- Plantronics
- RingCentral
- Synaptics

Computer Manufacturing

- Dell - Silicon Valley R&D Center
- Hewlett-Packard Company

Consumer Electrics

- AJZN

Entertainment

- BlueLight Cinemas

Financial Services

- Accenture
- City National Bank
- Fluent Wealth Partners
- Orion Capital Group
- Silicon Valley Bank
- Tech CU

General Manufacturing

- Data Physics Corp
- Fujifilm
- Gordon Biersch
- Sensorys
- SRI International
- Webcor

Health Care

- El Camino Hospital
- EMQ Families First
- Regional Medical Center of San Jose

High-Tech R&D/Original Equipment and Component Manufacturing

- Altera
- Applied Materials
- Bentek
- Intermolecular
- Intersil
- PLX Technology
- PMC-Sierra
- Power Integrations
- SAP
- Seagate Technologies
- SuVolta
- Symmetricom
- Trimble Navigation

Information Technology

- Fortinet
- NetGear

Media/News Services

- San Jose Mercury News
- Bay Area News Group

Professional Services

- Alom
- AmiCOUR IP Group
- Equilar
- Integrated Science Solutions
- KeenHire
- Synnex
- Taleo
- Vivecoach

Semiconductor/Microprocessor

- IDT
- KLA-Tencor
- Marvell Semiconductor
- Maxim Integrated Products
- Micrel Semiconductor
- Pericom
- Samsung
- TSMC North America
- Xilinx

Software

- Adobe
- Autodesk
- Baynote
- BMC
- Cadence
- Cognilytics
- EA
- EMC
- Grandis
- LibraryWorld, Inc.
- Livescribe
- Pacific Development and Technology
- Pinger
- Proofpoint Systems
- Synopsys
- Virtual Instruments
- YouSendIt

Sports Franchises

- San Jose Giants

Transportation

- Outreach
- Transpak
- Virgin America

Universities/Education

- DeVry University
- Golden Gate University School of Law
- Mission College
- San José State University
- Santa Clara University
- Stanford
- University of California at Berkeley

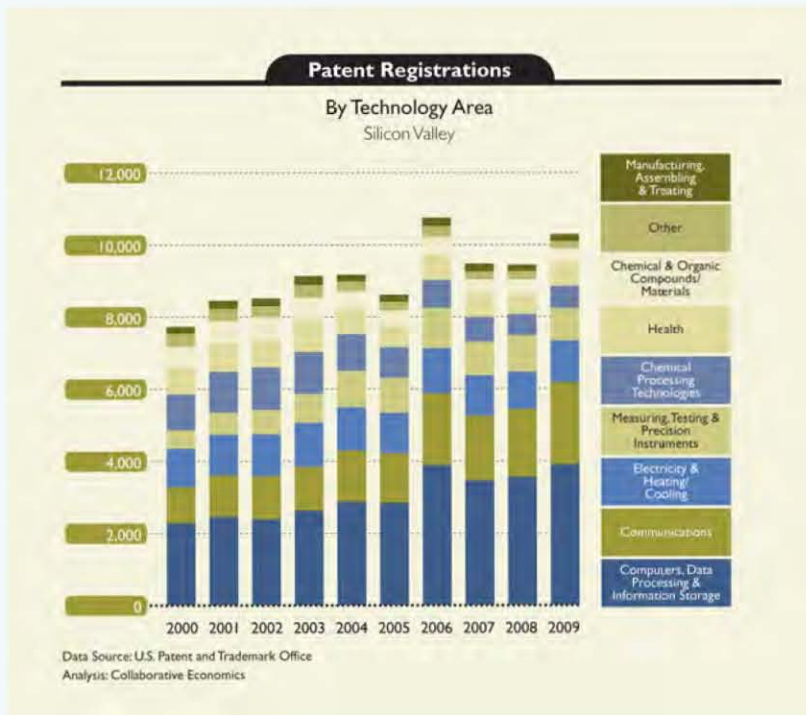
Utilities/Energy/Green Tech

- AQT Solar
- Better Place
- Bloom Energy
- Bridgelux
- California Water Service Company
- Cobalt Technologies/BioFuels
- Coulomb
- Ecofactor
- EPRI
- Nanosolar
- NextFuels
- OnGrid Solar
- Primus Power
- QuEST
- Serious Energy
- Silver Spring Networks
- SiTime
- Soladigm
- SolarCity
- Solaria
- SolFocus
- SoloPower
- The Watt Stopper
- Tioga Energy

Venture Capital

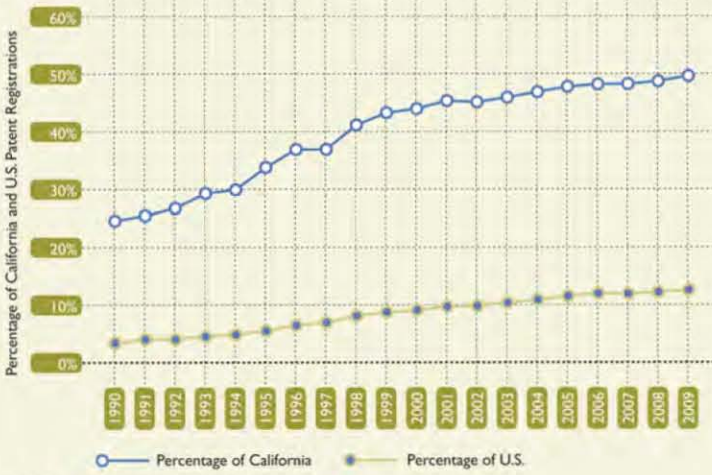
- Alsop Louie Partners
- Garage Technology Ventures
- Mohr Davidow Ventures

CHARTS & GRAPHS:



Patent Registrations

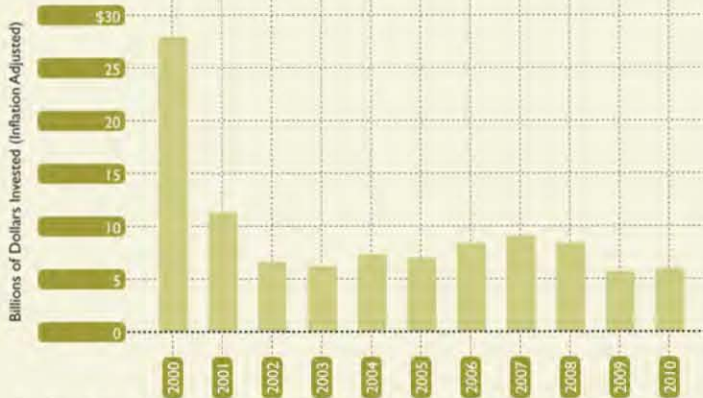
Silicon Valley's Percentage of U.S. and California Patents



Data Source: U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Analysis: Collaborative Economics

Venture Capital Investment

Billions of Dollars Invested
Silicon Valley



Data Source: PricewaterhouseCoopers/National Venture Capital Association MoneyTree™ Report, Data: Thomson Reuters
Analysis: Collaborative Economics

Silicon Valley Venture Capital Investment

	%CA	%U.S.
2000	54%	22%
2005	58%	27%
2010	53%	27%



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Bank of America

JAMES GUTIERREZ

Progreso Financiero

BARBARA HOLZAPFEL

SAP

KEN KANNAPPAN

Plantronics

GARY LAUER

eHealth

TARKAN MANER

Wyse Technology

JAI MENNON

IBM Corporation

KEN MCNEELY

AT&T

LEN PERHAM

Monolithic Systems

KIM POLESE

ClearStreet

ALAN SALZMAN

VantagePoint Capital Partners

MAC TULLY

San Jose Mercury News

RICK WALLACE

KLA-Tencor

BILL WATKINS

BridgeLux

JED YORK

San Francisco 49ers

Working Council Chair:

STEVE BEITLER, Agilent Technologies

Established in 1978 by

DAVID PACKARD

January 24, 2012

David Kappos

Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property
Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office
Department of Commerce
445 12th Street, SW
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Dear Under Secretary Kappos,

Thank you for your service and for your consideration of our proposal. On behalf of the Silicon Valley Leadership Group, we would like to join in expressing our support for a regional patent office in Silicon Valley in addition to the 126 local companies and organizations listed - 40 of them who are submitting separate letters of support.

By way of background, the Leadership Group, founded in 1978 by David Packard of Hewlett-Packard, represents more than 350 of Silicon Valley's most respected employers. Leadership Group members collectively provide nearly 250,000 local jobs, or one of every four private sector jobs in Silicon Valley – with more than \$1 trillion in economic contribution toward the state and national economy.

The Leadership Group believes that a satellite office in this region would benefit from the entrepreneurial culture in Silicon Valley and allow the office to optimize its services by taking advantage of the numerous resources and intellectual capital available here. Silicon Valley is the center of innovation for the IT, semiconductor and biotech industries, as well as many other emerging strategically vital technology areas including solid state lighting, clean-tech, and medical. Having a dedicated intellectual property resource in close proximity will help the United States maintain its competitive edge in these critical areas and help speed the process for patent approval.

Given the proximity to world-class universities and national laboratories, a large pool of highly-skilled talent and experienced technology consultants are readily available to both staff and support the regional patent office. In addition, a patent office in Silicon Valley will be able to develop a close relationship with the cutting-edge industries here and work collaboratively and efficiently to improve and strengthen the patent process in the face of increasing overseas competition.

Thank you again for your consideration. Our region hopes to be the site of the next named satellite office and we look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Carl Guardino
President and CEO



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Bay Area Council Economic Institute

January 26, 2012

Azam Khan
Deputy Chief of Staff
US Patent and Trademark Office
Mail Stop: Office of Under Secretary and Director
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Mr. Khan:

On behalf of the Bay Area Science and Innovation Consortium (BASIC), I would like to express support for a satellite patent office in the Bay Area region.

The Bay Area, and especially the Silicon Valley region, leads the nation in patent production. It is home to an unparalleled foundation of research universities, national laboratories, and private businesses. This truly is the home of innovation, creating breakthroughs that produce economic advantage and opportunity for our nation. Establishing a regional office in the Bay Area would facilitate reducing the number of pending patents in the system and enhance communication between the USPTO and the region's robust patent applicant community due to the availability of technology experts and the reduction of travel time between applicants and examiners.

The Bay Area is well-suited for a patent office because of its open and interactive innovation culture. Over the years, our region has fostered networks of inventors, scientists and innovators that shape our culture and are one of our greatest assets. Furthermore, it has contributed to the attraction of 15 percent of global VC funds, nearly half of the top 100 cleantech firms, 7 of the top social media firms, and the highest percentage of college-educated workers than any other peer city. Out of state commercial giants including WalMart, Ford, General Motors and Lockheed Martin have based their R&D facilities in the Silicon Valley region to take advantage of our skilled workforce, top-notch university system and innovation infrastructure.

Silicon Valley is an obvious and ideal location for a new USPTO office, and BASIC is pleased to support the San Jose bid. If the USPTO determines that another Bay Area location better meets its needs, BASIC will support that decision with enthusiasm. Having a patent office in the Bay Area would be an important regional (and national) asset, and our region would be supportive of patent office activities.

Placing a USPTO satellite office in the Bay Area will be transformative to the patent process. We believe that collaboration between Bay Area inventors and the USPTO is vital to refining the patent application process overall and maximizing innovation nationwide.

Sincerely,

Mark Bregman, Ph.D.
Chairman, Bay Area Science and Innovation Consortium
CTO, Neustar, Inc.

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Daniel Yost
Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe, LLP

January 23, 2012

Azam Khan, Deputy Chief of Staff
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Mail Stop Office of Under Secretary and Director
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: Docket # PTO-C-2011-0066, Nationwide Workforce Program –
Letter of Support for USPTO Satellite Office in Silicon Valley

Dear Mr. Khan:

Joint Venture: Silicon Valley Network is pleased to provide this letter of support on behalf of the City of San Jose's comments to the USPTO.

Silicon Valley is the home of innovation, and there is no more appropriate place for a satellite patent office than our region, where more applications originate than anywhere else in the country. The business clusters that call our area home – such as information and communication technologies and clean tech – are driving intellectual property advances today.

We have strong partnerships between government, industry, and higher education that will support the office and help integrate it to the region. With our large pool of available and appropriate talent, the office will quickly develop the workforce it needs to meet the demands of industry.

San Jose and all of the organizations who comprise this effort stand ready to assist the USPTO in meeting its goals of increasing outreach to the filer community, decreasing its backlog, and enhancing its workforce, from recruitment through retention.

We feel strongly that the USPTO will improve its service to the user community by getting closer to the customer, and that Silicon Valley is the right place to undertake that important objective.

Joint Venture looks forward to working with San Jose and our local and regional partners to make Silicon Valley the home of a successful satellite office for the USPTO. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Russell Hancock
President and Chief Executive Officer

BayBio, Northern California's life sciences association, is happy to join the Silicon Valley Leadership Group and other regional trade associations in supporting the Silicon Valley as the location of a regional patent and trade office. The size and scope of the life sciences industry and the myriad patents generated by it warrant a local office where patent examiners and industry researchers can directly interface.

The Life Sciences in Northern California

The Northern California life sciences cluster is an impressive juggernaut. Consider the following:

- There are 51,945 direct life sciences employees in the San Francisco Bay Area, earning an average wage of more than \$100,000 per year.ⁱ
- More than 1,300 companies engage in life sciences research and development.ⁱⁱ
- San Francisco and San Jose account for 350 patents per 1,000 employees.ⁱⁱⁱ

Mission Bay

The industry is expanding its physical footprint in Northern California, and during a period of protracted economic slowdown has been one of the few drivers of job growth, particularly in the construction sector. In the past 10 years, the Mission Bay area of San Francisco has built a world-class life sciences innovation hub from the ground up. Anchored by a 2.65 million square foot research campus of the University of California – San Francisco (UCSF), Mission Bay boasts more than 6 million square feet of office and life science laboratory and technology space that did not exist in 2000. Additionally, more than 500,000 square feet of retail space and 6,000 residential units were incorporated into the master plan for Mission Bay, leading to the creation of 31,000 new jobs in the life sciences and supporting industries.

Mission Bay is also home to the QB3 Innovation Garage, part of the California Institute for Quantitative Biosciences. QB3 is home to more than 20 startup life sciences and clean tech companies, occupying more than 21,000 square feet of laboratory space. Since its inception in 2000, QB3 has grown to have locations on three UC campuses and within two private companies. Startups housed at QB3 have raised more than \$230 million in venture financing. Other regional incubators have enjoyed similar successes, including the San Jose Biocenter.

Beyond Northern California

A regional patent and trade office based in San Jose would have a broader reach than solely the Bay Area, however. The life sciences industry in the state of California encompasses a much larger innovation engine:

- There are 2,224 biomedical companies in California – this does not include biofuels or bioagricultural companies.
- The industry generates more than \$114 billion in revenues, accounting for 268,000 jobs in the Golden State.
- Total estimated wages and salaries paid to life sciences employees in California exceeds \$19.4 billion, for an average wage of nearly \$72,000.
- NIH grants awarded in the state exceeded \$3.2 billion in 2009, and private venture capital investment in California biomedical companies exceeded \$2.6 billion.^{iv}

About BayBio

The Bay Area Bioscience Association ("BayBio") is the trade association for Northern California's life science community, representing more than 450 companies. Our members are actively researching and developing solutions to address the most pressing health, energy, and agricultural challenges facing the world today, and include the world's premier biotechnology, pharmaceutical, medical device, diagnostics, research tools, biofuels, and bioagricultural firms. From the birth of biotechnology in the San Francisco Bay Area in the mid-1970's, our region has grown into the largest and most productive life sciences cluster in the world.

ⁱ 2010 California Biomedical Industry Report.

ⁱⁱ 2009 California CURES Report.

ⁱⁱⁱ Strumsky Patent Database, University of North Carolina – Charlotte.

^{iv} 2010 California Biomedical Industry Report.



**SAN JOSÉ STATE
UNIVERSITY**

January 26, 2012

Office of the President

**Mohammad H. Qayoumi, PhD
President**

**One Washington Square
San José, California 95192-0002
Office: 408-924-1111
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sjupres@sjsu.edu**

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Mr. David Kappos
Under Secretary for Intellectual Property
Director for the United States Patent and Trademark Office
Department of Commerce
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Under Secretary Kappos:

On behalf of San José State University, we would like to express our support for a satellite patent office in Silicon Valley. The region is known internationally as the epicenter of innovation. Silicon Valley tech companies are the world leaders in hardware, software, social media, biotechnology and clean energy innovation. Thus, the region has a tremendous stake in the timely processing of patent applications. Venture capitalists greatly prefer to back entrepreneurs who have patents in hand. The speed with which innovative ideas translate into jobs is directly related to the efficiency of the patent office.

Silicon Valley and the bay area are consistently ranked as one of the best places to live and work. Home to many world class universities known for cutting-edge research as well as innovative teaching, there is no better location to recruit and retain talented patent examiners who receive excellent and focused education in our classrooms and labs. These future employees will directly help achieve USPTO's critical stated goals to improve recruitment of patent examiners and enhance their retention rates.

With the U.S. Patent and Trademark office ready to establish three satellite offices as required by the America Invents Act, we urge you to carefully consider Silicon Valley as an ideal location for one of the offices.

Sincerely,

Mohammad H. Qayoumi, Ph.D.
President

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

BERKELEY



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ROBERT J. BIRGENEAU
Chancellor
Professor of Physics
Professor of Materials Science and Engineering

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January 27, 2012

Mr. David Kappos
Under Secretary for Intellectual Property
Director for the United States Patent and Trademark Office
Department of Commerce
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Under Secretary Kappos,

On behalf of the University of California, Berkeley we would like to express our support for a satellite U.S. Patent & Trademark office in Silicon Valley.

Establishing a regional office in Silicon Valley would facilitate the reduction of the number of pending patents in the system and enhance communication between the USPTO and the patent applicant community. At UC Berkeley's College of Engineering and Berkeley Law, we train hundreds of technology and legal experts and we are confident that a local patent office would be beneficial to our regional innovation ecosystem. The University of California system has filed more US patents than any other university in the country.

UC Berkeley files on average 150 patent applications per year. We could expect a significant annual savings on travel time and costs with a regional office that is within driving distance. As an alum yourself, you know that Berkeley Law has one of the nation's leading programs in law and technology. The Berkeley Center for Law & Technology was established in 1995 to respond to students' significant interest in intellectual property and technology law. Our Berkeley Technology Law Journal is one of the nation's oldest and most respected technology law journals. Currently, eighty-five law students -10% of the total-are majoring in a technical area. UC Berkeley is, therefore, a robust training ground for the patent examiners who will be necessary to staff-up a regional patent office.

We also offer a "Law & Technology Certificate" that includes core courses in Intellectual Property (IP), copyright, patent law, trademark law, cyberlaw, information privacy law, trade secrets and more. We have nine technology law student groups at Berkeley Law, as well as our Samuelson Law & Technology Clinic. Our technology law faculty, renowned in the country, could lend expertise for specified periods of time to USPTO. The head of our Center for Law & Technology, Mr. Robert Barr, is considered one of the world's top intellectual property strategists.

We believe that collaboration between UC Berkeley and Silicon Valley inventors, and the USPTO is vital to refining the patent application process overall and maximizing innovation nationwide.

With warm regards.

Yours sincerely,

Robert J. Birgeneau



North Valley: Cupertino Los Altos Milpitas Mountain View Palo Alto Santa Clara Sunnyvale

505 W. Olive Avenue, Suite 600
Sunnyvale, CA 94086
Phone 408-730-7240
Fax 408-730-7643
TDD/TTY 408-730-7501
www.novawb.org

January 12, 2012

- Applied Materials
- Building & Construction Trades Council
- Building Skills Partnership
- Cenetri Group
- Center for Continuing Study of the CA Economy
- Cisco Systems
- Communications Workers of America
- County of Santa Clara
- Dept. of Rehabilitation
- Dr. Frank Benost Consulting
- Employment Development Dept.
- Foothill-De Anza Community College District
- Housing Authority of the County of Santa Clara
- IDEO
- Intuit
- Kolser Permanente
- Lockheed Martin Space Systems Company
- Manpower
- McAfee, Inc
- MM Hamilton Financial Group
- Mountain View-Los Altos UHSD Adult School
- NASA Ames Research Center
- National Council on Aging
- Parkinson's Institute and Clinical Center
- Pipe Trades Training Center
- Proofpoint Systems, Inc.
- Sacred Heart Community Service
- Santa Clara Chamber of Commerce
- Silicon Valley Leadership Group
- Sollectron Corporation
- Symantec
- Wells Fargo

David Kappos
Director of the U. S. Patent and Trademark Office
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Mr. Kappos:

On behalf of the the NOVA Workforce Board, I am pleased to enthusiastically support the creation of a Patent Office Satellite Center in San Jose, California. The center would greatly benefit the Silicon Valley region and would therefor be a strategic catalyst for the nation's innovation economy.

As a regional workforce partner, NOVA would work with key stakeholders to support the identification and recruitment of a regional pool of skilled Silicon Valley engineers and other workers with the qualifications to fill Satellite Center job openings.

Please feel free to contact me if you need additional information.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kris Stadelman". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kris Stadelman
Executive Director

Van Dang,
Co-Chairperson

Mary Schuppert,
Co-Chairperson

Poncho Guevara,
Vice Chairperson

Steve Van Dorn,
Vice Chairperson

Rich Allen,
Past Chairperson

Kris Stadelman,
Director



SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

1000 Emeline Ave.
Santa Cruz, CA 95060
(831) 454-4873
www.santacruzwb.com

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Goodwill Industries
Carol H. Siegel, Vice Chair
The Santa Cruz Seaside Company
Jo Ann Allen, Coordinator, Student Support Services
SC County Office of Education
Shareen E. Bell, Executive Director
Your Future Is Our Business
Christina Cuevas, Program Director
Community Foundation of Santa Cruz County
Hipolito Gutierrez, Parent
Driscoll's
Brenda Herrmann, Conservation Administrator
California Conservation Corps
Christine Johnson-Lyons, Executive Director
Community Action Board of SC County
Scott MacDonald, Chief Probation Officer
SC County Probation Department
Bill McCabe, Youth Services Director
Santa Cruz Community Counseling Center
Denise O'Laughlin, Director of Human Resources
Chaminade Resort & Spa
Rock Pfothenauer, Dean
Cabrillo College
Bryan Wall, Deputy Superintendent
Santa Cruz County Office of Education
Saraí Zayas, Administrative Assistant
Santa Cruz County Office of Education

WIB DIRECTOR:
David Lundberg

January 9, 2012

Work2future
5730 Chambertin Drive
San Jose, CA 95118

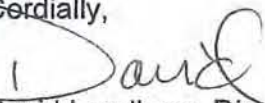
Attn: Javier Vanga at Javier.vanga@sanjoseca.gov

To: **Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office**
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

The Workforce Investment Board of Santa Cruz County supports the creation of a Patent Office Satellite Center in San Jose, California. As a regional economy and regional effort our workforce board will support and partner in the recruitment and identification of a pool of candidates for positions that will become available with the success of this effort. For example, we can get out information to identify engineers for a pool of candidates for the positions in the Patent Office.

We are very committed to the success of this effort, if the satellite center is approved.

Cordially,


David Lundberg, Director



251 EAST HACKETT ROAD, SUITE C-2
P.O. BOX 3389
MODESTO, CA. 95353-3389

P 209.558.2100
F 209.558.2164
ALLIANCEWORKNET.COM

January 10, 2012

Work2future
5730 Chambertin Drive
San Jose CA 95118
Attn: Javier Vanga
Javier.vanga@sanjoseca.gov

To: Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

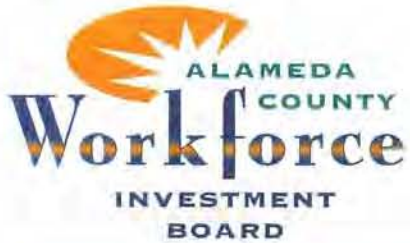
The Stanislaus Alliance, local Workforce Investment Board for Stanislaus County lends its support for the creation of a Patent Office Satellite Center in San Jose, California. As a regional effort our local workforce board will support and partner in the recruitment and identification of a regional pool of candidates for positions that will become available with the success of this effort.

The Alliance supports this effort and will coordinate a local effort with our workforce and education partners to identify and refer appropriate candidates for engineer and other positions that will become available with the success of this effort.

Name

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeffrey Rowe". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being more prominent.

Jeffrey Rowe
Workforce Development Director
Stanislaus Economic Development and Workforce Alliance



January 9, 2012

To: Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

The Alameda County Workforce Investment Board (WIB) lends its support for the creation of a Patent Office Satellite Center in San Jose, California. As a regional effort our local workforce board will support and partner in the recruitment and identification of a regional pool of candidates for positions that will become available with the success of this effort.

The Alameda County WIB supports this effort and assures that our regional workforce development partners will cooperate; for example, to identify engineers for a pool of candidates for positions that will become available with the success of this effort.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Patti Castro". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the left.

Patti Castro
Assistant Director

January 19, 2012

Azam Khan
Deputy Chief of Staff
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Mail Stop Office of Under Secretary and Director
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

On behalf of Align Technology, Inc., we would like to express our support for a satellite patent office in Silicon Valley.

Establishing a regional office in Silicon Valley would facilitate reducing the number of pending patents in the system and enhance communication between the USPTO and the patent applicant community due to the availability of technology experts in the region and reducing travel time between applicants and examiners. A Silicon Valley office would be very close to us and much closer than Alexandria for almost all of our outside patent counsel doing work for us. Having a local Patent Office would probably save at least 2-6 roundtrip flights a year and potentially a hundred or more hours of time due to a more convenient office.

Our company files on average of 15-25 utility patent applications per year in the dental, software and scanner technologies. The life cycles of products in the technology industry are short, often less than two years, while the average pendency of patents is more than four years. The more quickly our pending patents are processed, the better our company can continue to compete in the innovation space. An office here in the Valley would allow our engineers to develop close working relationships with patent examiners that work on our technologies to ensure the issuance of high quality patents.

If a satellite office were to be located here, our company would be able to partner with universities and the USPTO to help educate patent examiners on our cutting edge technologies. We think it would be very helpful to the Examiners as well as our company to be able to provide training/education and demonstrations as well as facilitate more in-person or video conferences to quickly resolve issues. We believe that collaboration between Silicon Valley inventors and the USPTO is vital to refining the patent application process overall and maximizing innovation nationwide.

Sincerely



Thomas M. Prescott
President and CEO





January 24, 2012

Subject: Letter in Support of Regional Patent Office in Silicon Valley

Dear Under Secretary Kappos:

On behalf of Jan Medical we would like to express our support for a satellite patent office in Silicon Valley.

Jan Medical is my sixth Silicon Valley startup company and without patents none of these companies would exist. I personally have 48 US patents issued and many more pending; both US and OUS. We have every aspect of patent prosecution underway most of the time along with our share of litigation on both sides. With Silicon Valley being such a powerhouse in developing the next new, new thing, having a regional office would reduce costs for moving patents through the system and in the end improve the time it takes to get our patents issued.

Establishing a regional office in Silicon Valley would facilitate reducing the number of pending patents in the system and enhance communication between the USPTO and the patent applicant community due to the availability of technology experts in the region and reducing travel time between applicants and examiners, lower the cost of our patent lawyers and hence to us. Startups must be very sensitive to all costs as capital is both expensive and hard to come by. It is not to be wasted.

My companies have filed at least ten patents per year for the last 15 years. The life cycles of products in the technology industry are short, often less than a year, while the average pendency of patents is more than three years. The more quickly our pending patents are processed, the better our company can continue to compete in the innovation space. An office here in the Valley would reduce the time to file and allow our engineers to develop close working relationships with patent examiners to ensure the approval of high quality patents.

If a satellite office were to be located here, our company would be able to partner with universities and the USPTO to help educate patent examiners on cutting edge technologies. We believe that collaboration between Silicon Valley inventors and the USPTO is vital to refining the patent application process overall and maximizing innovation nationwide.

Sincerely,
Paul Lovoi

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul Lovoi", written in a fluid, cursive style.

President and CEO



January 19, 2012

To USPTO:

On behalf of Facebook, Inc., we would like to express our support for a satellite patent office in Silicon Valley.

Our company files hundreds of patent applications per year. The life cycles of products in the technology industry are short, often less than a year, while the average pendency of patents is more than three years. The more quickly our pending patents are processed, the better our company can continue to compete in the innovation space. An office here in the Valley would reduce the time to file and allow our engineers to develop close working relationships with patent examiners to ensure the approval of high quality patents.

Establishing a regional office in Silicon Valley would help reduce the number of pending patents in the system and enhance communication between the USPTO and the patent applicant community because the concentration of technology experts in the region would significantly reduce travel time between applicants and examiners.

Through our work on patent applications for Facebook, we have personally experienced how in-person communication with the USPTO facilitates a clearer dialogue between the Examiners and Facebook and significantly advances prosecution beyond what phone interviews and written prosecution can provide. Consequently, Facebook currently dedicates substantial financial and employee resources on travel to the USPTO. A regional Silicon Valley office would not only significantly reduce travel time and costs, but would allow us to increase the number of interviews we can participate in, and ensure that we are able to get the appropriate experts in front of the USTPO.

If a satellite office were to be located here, our company would also be able to partner with universities and the USPTO to help educate patent examiners on cutting edge technologies. A regional Silicon Valley office would allow us to provide ongoing education and product training and meeting space at our campus.

We believe that increased collaboration between Silicon Valley inventors and the USPTO is vital to refining the patent application process overall and maximizing innovation nationwide, and that a Silicon Valley patent office would be an important step towards achieving those goals.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "S. O'Rourke", is written over a faint circular stamp.

Sam O'Rourke (Deputy General Counsel, IP)

January 12, 2012

Mr. David Kappos
Under Secretary for Intellectual Property
Director for the United States Patent and Trademark Office
Department of Commerce
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Under Secretary Kappos:

On behalf of Infinera Corporation, we would like to express our support for a satellite patent office in Silicon Valley.

Infinera is based in Sunnyvale, California, and a local patent office will allow us to conduct examiner interviews with minimal travel time and expense. As a result, we expect to be able to expedite prosecution in many of our patent applications. Since the life cycle of products in our industry is short, reduced patent pendency will strengthen our patent portfolio and improve our competitiveness.

Moreover, if a satellite office were to be located here, our company would be able to partner with universities and the USPTO to help educate patent examiners on cutting edge technologies. For example, we can provide meeting space, education/training, and product demonstrations for the examiners. We believe that collaboration between Silicon Valley inventors and the USPTO is vital to refining the patent application process overall and maximizing innovation nationwide.

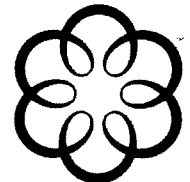
We urge you to carefully consider Silicon Valley for the location of the next satellite patent office.

Sincerely,



David L. Soltz
Chief IP Counsel

cc: Tom Fallon, CEO
Michael O. McCarthy III, Chief Legal and Administrative Officer



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January 17, 2012

United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO),

On behalf of Ooma, Inc., we would like to express our support for a satellite patent office in Silicon Valley. Establishing a regional office in Silicon Valley would facilitate reducing the number of pending patents in the system and enhance communication between the USPTO and the patent applicant community due to the availability of technology experts in the region and reducing travel time between applicants and examiners.

Our company has patent applications pending. The life cycles of products in the technology industry are short, often less than a year, while the average pendency of patents is more than three years. The more quickly our pending patents are processed, the better our company can continue to compete in the innovation space. An office here in the Valley would reduce the time to file and allow our engineers to develop close working relationships with patent examiners to ensure the approval of high quality patents.

If a satellite office were to be located here, our company would be able to partner with universities and the USPTO to help educate patent examiners on cutting edge technologies. We believe that collaboration between Silicon Valley inventors and the USPTO is vital to refining the patent application process overall and maximizing innovation nationwide. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Very truly yours,

Eric Stang

CEO

January 19, 2012

To the United States Patent and Trademark Office:

On behalf of RingCentral, Inc., we would like to express strong support for a satellite patent office in Silicon Valley.

Like many companies in Silicon Valley, we believe patents are an essential part of innovation that drives the economy. We believe establishing an office in Silicon Valley, as opposed to another metropolitan area, would make the greatest positive impact on patent cases before the PTO, and therefore would make the greatest positive impact on innovation in the United States.

As indicated by the PTO's Patent Technology Monitoring Team, the Silicon Valley metropolitan area is by far the largest source of utility patents in the United States.¹ Furthermore, two of the top three metropolitan areas for utility patents are located in the San Francisco Bay Area, and five of the top ten metropolitan areas for utility patents are located in the western United States.²

Establishing an office in Silicon Valley would give inventors greater opportunities to interact directly with patent examiners to expedite the filing and analysis of high quality patent applications. Our company, RingCentral, files several patent applications per year, but because of our small size, our technical employees have many responsibilities that may prevent them from traveling to Washington, D.C. to assist in the prosecution of our patent applications. A satellite office in Silicon Valley would make it easier for our technical employees to interact directly with patent examiners to help advance our patent applications while continuing our innovative work in the cloud-based communications space.

Examiners in Silicon Valley would also draw upon the expertise and resources of the non-profit and educational institutions of Silicon Valley, such as the Computer History Museum, Stanford University, and the University of California. Those institutions would provide a valuable resource of technical experts and technical publications for use by patent examiners. Along with nearby companies, those institutions would also provide a pool of talent from which the PTO could select examiners and staff.

We look forward to the growth of the PTO, and with that growth, the growth of patents and innovation in the United States. We hope that the PTO will choose Silicon Valley as its second home.

Sincerely,

John H. Marlow
General Counsel & Vice President of Corporate Development
RingCentral, Inc.

¹ http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/ac/ido/oeip/taf/cls_cbsa/allcbsa_gd.htm

² *Id.*

Gregory S. DeWolfe
General Counsel
gdewolfe@synaptics.com
408-454-5370

January 17, 2012

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
PO Box 1450
Arlington, VA 22313-1450

Synaptics Incorporated would like to express its support for a satellite patent office in Silicon Valley.

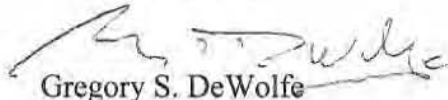
We join other members of the Silicon Valley Leadership Group in the belief that a Silicon Valley patent office would benefit the USPTO as well as the high tech companies located in the Silicon Valley.

The patent office does a good job of hiring locally. This strength could be most effectively used by the patent office in a Silicon Valley branch which would have access to the largest pool of engineers and attorneys interested in high technology.

We also agree with other members of the SVLG that a Silicon Valley branch would add to the efficiency of processing the many applications generated in the Valley and would present opportunities for partnering with industry and educational institutions to facilitate approvals of high quality patents.

We believe that collaboration between Silicon Valley inventors and a local USPTO branch would result in a refinement of the patent application process, improve the quality of the USPTO work force and spur innovation nationwide.

Very truly yours,



Gregory S. DeWolfe

January 12, 2012

To USPTO:

On behalf of Technology Credit Union, we would like to express our support for establishing a satellite patent office in Silicon Valley.

Establishing a regional office in Silicon Valley would help reduce the number of pending patents in the system. It would also enhance communication between the USPTO and the patent applicant community due to the availability of technology experts in the region, and reduce travel time between applicants and examiners.

As a Silicon Valley focused financial institution, we support over 72,000 technology professionals — many of whom have made significant contributions to the startup community as entrepreneurs, inventors, and innovators. The lifecycle of a product in the technology industry is short — often less than a year — while the average pendency of a patent can exceed three years.

The more rapidly our members' pending patents are processed, the better our company can support their business ventures. An office in the Valley would reduce filing time and allow our members to develop close working relationships with patent examiners — ensuring approval of high quality patents.

If a satellite office were located locally, our company would be able to better support our members' partnerships with both universities and the USPTO — helping to educate patent examiners on cutting-edge technologies. [Partnership examples, e.g. providing meeting space, education/training, etc.] We believe that collaboration between Silicon Valley inventors and the USPTO is vital to refining the patent application process and maximizing innovation worldwide.

Sincerely,

Barbara Kamm

CEO/President

Technology Credit Union



1741 Technology Drive, Suite 260 San Jose, CA 95110 TEL: 408-437-0100 FAX: 408-437-0509

23 January 2012

To: USPTO

I write to express the support of Data Physics for a satellite patent office in Silicon Valley. Establishing a regional office in Silicon Valley would facilitate the patent process for the large number of applicants in this region. The USPTO would find the work of the patent examiners made easy by reducing the time for interaction with the community of applicants and technology experts resident in this region. It should lead to a reduction in the number of pending patents in the system.

The availability of a regional office would lead to an increase in the number of patent applications by our company and other companies in the region leading to a more vigorous development of technology in a region known for its ability to innovate.

We believe that collaboration between Silicon Valley inventors and the USPTO is vital to refining the patent application process overall and maximizing innovation nationwide.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sri Welaratna', written in a cursive style.

Sri Welaratna

President and Chief Executive Officer



2250 Martin Avenue
Santa Clara, California 95050
U.S.A.
Phone: (408) 565-9150
Fax: (408) 565-9151
E-mail: info@dimatix.com
www.dimatix.com

January 16, 2012

To United States Patent and Trademark Office:

On behalf of FUJIFILM Dimatix, we would like to express our support for a satellite patent office in Silicon Valley.

FUJIFILM Dimatix is an international provider of inkjet printhead and printer products. Our headquarters along with our R&D group are located in Silicon Valley. Establishing a regional office in Silicon Valley would advance prosecution of our patent applications and reduce the number of pending applications in the system due to the availability of our technology experts in the region and reducing travel time between applicants and examiners. Our technology experts would be available to attend examiner interviews, where they could provide background information for specific applications as well as answer technical questions. In-person interviews, unlike telephone interviews, would provide our technology experts the opportunity to bring product samples, such as assembled printheads or individual parts of a printhead, such as piezoelectric materials used in manufacturing micro-actuators for our printheads. These tangible examples can provide useful context and insight that may be more difficult to grasp from two-dimensional line drawings.

Along with the opportunity to educate patent examiners about our technology, a Silicon Valley satellite office would also provide the opportunity to develop close working relationships with the examiners. Together these could reduce the time spent on applications, reduce the number of pending applications, and ensure the approval of high quality patents.

We believe that collaboration between Silicon Valley inventors and the USPTO is vital to refining the patent application process overall and maximizing innovation nationwide.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Martin Schoeppler". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a white background.

Martin Schoeppler
President & CEO
FUJIFILM Dimatix, Inc.

January 12, 2012

Via Email

satelliteoffices@uspto.gov

United States Patent and Trademark Office


On behalf of the IP Law Program at the Golden Gate University School of Law, we would like to express our strong support for the establishment of a satellite patent office in Silicon Valley.

Having a new regional office of the U.S.P.T.O. in Silicon Valley would be beneficial for a number of reasons. Perhaps most importantly, it would facilitate the expeditious examination of patents, thereby reducing the number of patents pending in the system. Moreover, it is especially appropriate to create a new satellite office in Silicon Valley precisely because this is where much of the innovation and patented inventions that have dramatically shaped the U.S. and world economies over the past decades have emanated.


A new satellite PTO office in Silicon Valley also makes much sense because the Bay Area is one of the most sophisticated and deep markets for intellectual property lawyers in the world. All of the Bay Area law schools have strong IP law programs that train hundreds of patent and IP lawyers each year, many of whom would welcome the opportunity to work with and for the PTO. Moreover, many of the Bay Area's law students would benefit from the opportunities to serve as externs and otherwise develop a relationship with the PTO.

We believe that collaboration between Silicon Valley inventors, IP lawyers, IP law students, and the USPTO is vital to innovation nationwide. Having a Silicon Valley satellite office would be an important step to fostering that innovation and the economic development such innovations provides.

Sincerely,



Professors Marc H. Greenberg
Co-Director, IP Law Program



William T. Gallagher
Co-Director, IP Law Program

Intellectual Property
Law Center

335 Mission Street
San Francisco, CA
94105-2588
Tel: 415-442-6600
Fax: 415-442-6609
www.ggu.edu/law



January 17, 2012

TO: The United States Patent Office

FROM: Mike T. Johnson, FACHE
Chief Executive Officer

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of Regional Medical Center of San Jose, we would like to express our support for a satellite patent office in the Silicon Valley.

Establishing a regional office in Silicon Valley would facilitate reducing the number of pending patents in the system and enhance communication between the US Patent Office and the patent applicant community due to the availability of technology experts in the region and reducing travel time between applicants and examiners.

We believe that collaboration between Silicon Valley inventors and the United States Patent Office is vital to refining the patent application process overall and maximizing innovation nationwide.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "MTJ", is written over a horizontal line.

Mike T. Johnson, FACHE
Chief Executive Officer

MTJ/da



January 24, 2012

To USPTO:

On behalf of Bentek, Inc., I would like to voice my support for a satellite patent office in Silicon Valley.

Bentek is a small company engaged in the rapidly growing renewable energy field of PV solar. We are now filing an average of 2 patents per year and I expect this pace to continue, or increase in the years to come. As a small company with limited means, time and cost are very precious commodities to us. The opportunity to reduce travel and time by having access to a regional patent office would be a significant benefit to us in our plans to provide cost effective, environmentally safe energy solutions and increasing local employment.

In addition, close proximity to patent offices would allow our engineering staff to better understand and respond to patent related questions and issues from examiners rather than the need to employ attorneys to respond on our behalf.

We believe a closer physical relationship with the patent office presents a significant opportunity for business and government to improve American innovation, reduce the associated costs, and accelerate the development of new technologies to benefit our country.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mitch Schoch", written over a vertical line.

Mitch Schoch
President and CEO
Bentek, Inc.

INTERSIL CORPORATION
1001 Murphy Ranch Road
Milpitas, CA 95035

January 13, 2012

To USPTO:

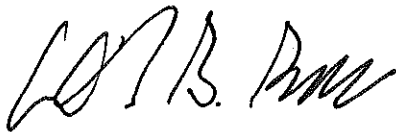
On behalf of Intersil Corporation, we would like to express our support for a satellite patent office in Silicon Valley.

Establishing a regional office in Silicon Valley would facilitate reducing the number of pending patents in the system and enhance communication between the USPTO and the patent applicant community due to the availability of technology experts in the region and reducing travel time between applicants and examiners.

Our company files about one hundred US patent applications per year. The life cycles of products in the technology industry are short, often less than a year, while the average pendency of patents is more than three years. The more quickly our pending patents are processed, the better our company can continue to compete in the innovation space. An office here in the Valley would reduce the time to file and allow our engineers to develop close working relationships with patent examiners to ensure the approval of high quality patents.

If a satellite office were to be located here, our company would be able to partner with universities and the USPTO to help educate patent examiners on cutting edge technologies. We believe that collaboration between Silicon Valley inventors and the USPTO is vital to refining the patent application process overall and maximizing innovation nationwide.

Sincerely,



David B. Bell
President and Chief Executive Officer



5245 Hellyer Avenue, San Jose, CA 95138
Ph: (408) 414-9200, Fax: (408) 414-9201
www.powerint.com

January 19, 2012

To USPTO:

On behalf of Power Integrations, Inc., I am writing to urge the establishment of a satellite patent office in Silicon Valley.

Intellectual property and the patents in which they are embodied are the lifeblood of our company. We filed over 75 patent applications last year and rely on our patents to protect our market-leading innovations. Today, the average pendency of patents is more than three years. The more quickly our pending patents are processed, the better our company can continue to compete in the global marketplace against competitors from China, Taiwan and Europe. An office here in the Valley would speed up the process by reducing the time required to file and shrinking the backlog of pending patents in the pipeline.

Establishing a Silicon Valley office would also enhance communication between the USPTO and patent applicants, allowing innovators to develop close working relationships with patent examiners to ensure the approval of high quality patents. The availability of technology experts – both at local companies and at the area's outstanding universities – would enable patent examiners to gain a deep understanding of the technical concepts underlying patent applications. Lastly, a local office would boost productivity and reduce costs for applicants by eliminating the countless hours of travel time currently required between the East and West Coasts.

We believe that collaboration between Silicon Valley inventors and the USPTO is vital to refining the patent application process overall and ensuring that the United States keeps its position as the world leader in innovation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Balu Balakrishnan".

Balu Balakrishnan
President and CEO
Power Integrations, Inc.



SAP Labs
3410 Hillview Ave.
Palo Alto, CA 94304

Christine Johnson
Sr. Director, Communications & Strategic Relationships
SAP
3410 Hillview Ave.
Palo Alto, CA 94304

Date: January 19, 2012
Re: Satellite Patent Office in Silicon Valley

Dear USPTO:

On behalf of SAP, we would like to express our support for a satellite patent office in Silicon Valley.

Close proximity to the Patent Office brings greater access for Valley firms. As California represents a large percentage of overall filings with the USPTO (~25% of all annual patent filings originating in the US, 12x of patent grants of the average state, and 2nd largest state in trademark registrations), a local Patent Office should lead to more efficient execution of applications.

If a satellite office were to be located here, our company would be able to partner with universities and the USPTO to help educate patent examiners on cutting edge technologies. We would attract an excellent talent pool, as these potential patent examiners would not have to relocate to Detroit or Washington, D.C.

We believe that collaboration between Silicon Valley inventors and the USPTO is vital to refining the patent application process overall and maximizing innovation nationwide.

Best Regards,

Christine Johnson
SAP Labs Palo Alto
650 858 3797
Christine.johnson@sap.com

KeenHire

Talent Management



Maximizing Your ROI

January 12, 2012

To USPTO:

On behalf of KeenHire Talent Management, we would like to express our support for a satellite patent office in Silicon Valley.

Establishing a regional office in Silicon Valley would facilitate reducing the number of pending patents in the system and enhance communication between the USPTO and the patent applicant community due to the availability of technology experts in the region and reducing travel time between applicants and examiners.

Our company has currently not filed any patent applications but is looking into doing this sometime in the near future. The life cycles of products in the technology industry are short, often less than a year, while the average pendency of patents is more than three years. The more quickly our pending patents are processed, the better our company can continue to compete in the innovation space. An office here in the Valley would reduce the time to file and allow our engineers to develop close working relationships with patent examiners to ensure the approval of high quality patents.

If a satellite office were to be located here, our company would be able to partner with universities and the USPTO to help educate patent examiners on cutting edge technologies. We believe that collaboration between Silicon Valley inventors and the USPTO is vital to refining the patent application process overall and maximizing innovation nationwide.

Sincerely,

KEENHIRE TALENT MANAGEMENT

Mike Mowen
Director of Operations



Greg T. Warder
(408) 360-1576
Greg.Warder@idt.com

January 25, 2012

Azam Khan
Deputy Chief of Staff
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Office of Under Secretary and Director

RE: Nationwide Workforce Program (Docket No. PTO-C-2011-0066); Recommendation for USPTO Satellite Office in Silicon Valley Area of California

Dear Deputy Chief Khan,

This letter is presented on behalf of Integrated Device Technology, Inc. ("IDT"), in response to the request for comments on additional USPTO satellite offices for the nationwide workforce program. As a semiconductor company with its headquarters located in San Jose, CA, IDT strongly supports the establishment of a satellite patent office in this area.

The Silicon Valley is a key location for research and innovation in several industries, and a significant source of the patent applications that are filed each year with the USPTO. A local patent office would promote enhanced communication with the many businesses, educational institutions and extensive community of patent professionals centered in this region, and result in a more efficient prosecution process. Less travel time and expense for applicants, direct access for examiners to inventors and technology experts, and quicker response time are just a few examples of the many benefits that would be immediately realized.

IDT files close to one hundred new provisional, utility and continuation patent applications with the USPTO each year. Due to the rapid life cycle of the semiconductor technology developed by IDT, it is critical to minimize the pendency of these applications by as much as possible. If a satellite office were located here, IDT would be able to better provide examiners the information needed to make decisions on patentability. This would better allow our company, and others like us throughout the region, to continue to bring cutting edge technologies to market on a competitive basis.

We believe close collaboration with the USPTO is increasingly important in this global environment, and a local satellite patent office would be invaluable to promoting that goal.

Very truly yours,

Greg T. Warder
Director of Intellectual Property
Integrated Device Technology, Inc.



Maxim Integrated Products
120 San Gabriel Drive
Sunnyvale, California 94086
(408) 737-7600

January 18, 2012

Via: Express Mail, Post Office to Addressee

David Kappos
Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property
Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office
Department of Commerce
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Recommending the Silicon Valley for the next Satellite USPTO Office

On behalf of Maxim Integrated Product, Inc. ("Maxim"), we would like to express our support for a satellite patent office in Silicon Valley.

Establishing a regional office in Silicon Valley would help reduce the number of pending patents in the USPTO system by enhance communication between the USPTO and the Silicon Valley community, while at the same time offering the USPTO high-quality and available workforce. The Silicon Valley has a concentration of scientists, engineers, patent agents and patent attorneys who would be competitive and qualified candidates to work in a Silicon Valley USPTO satellite office. Such a workforce would enhance and expand the USPTO's general technical resources, and provide highly qualified technical resources to work directly on the many cases originating in the Silicon Valley. In today's cost conscious world, companies like Maxim often forego valuable in-person examiner interviews because the travel costs associated with sending a Silicon Valley representative round trip to and from Virginia are prohibitive. By having USPTO experts in the region, Silicon Valley companies, including Maxim, will be able to work directly on high-tech cases with skilled patent examiners, resulting in higher quality patents in less time, which benefits everyone.

On average, Maxim files between eighty and one-hundred new semiconductor focused patent applications per year. The life cycles of products in the semiconductor industry can be relatively short, sometimes less than three to five years, which is coincident with the average length of patent pendency in this technology area. The more quickly Maxim's pending patent applications are processed, the better Maxim will be able to compete in the semiconductor space. An office in the Silicon Valley would reduce the time from patent filing to issuance, and allow our patent attorneys, patent agents, and engineers to develop close working relationships with patent examiners, thereby helping to assure higher quality patents.

If a satellite office were to be located in the Silicon Valley, Maxim would be able to partner with universities, other high-tech companies, local professional organizations, and the USPTO to help educate patent examiners on cutting edge technologies. Likewise, Maxim's patent attorneys and policy makers would be able to work more closely in partnership with the USPTO as the patent laws and policies change and take shape. We believe that collaboration between Silicon Valley inventors, Silicon Valley companies, and the USPTO is vital to refining the patent application process overall and maximizing innovation nationwide.

Very truly yours,



Mary A. Fuller,
Associate General Counsel, IP
Maxim Integrated Products, Inc.

cc:

Silicon Valley Leadership Group,
Emily Lam (elam@svlg.org)



SAMSUNG SEMICONDUCTOR, INC.

Office of the General Counsel
3655 North First Street
San Jose, CA 95134-1713
Tel: (408) 544-4000 Fax: (408) 544-4914

January 23, 2012

Via U.S. Mail

David Kappos
Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property
Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office
Department of Commerce
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: *Support for establishing satellite patent office in Silicon Valley*

Dear Mr. Kappos:

On behalf of Samsung Semiconductor, Inc., I am writing to express our support for a satellite patent office in Silicon Valley.

Establishing a regional office in Silicon Valley would reduce the number of pending patents in the system, enhance communication between the USPTO and the patent applicant due to the availability of technology experts in the region and reduce travel time for both applicants and examiners.

The life cycles of products in the technology industry are short, often less than a year, while the average pendency of patents is more than three years. The more quickly our pending patents are processed, the more effectively our company can compete. An office here in the Valley would reduce the time to file and allow our engineers to develop close working relationships with patent examiners to ensure the approval of high quality patents.

If a satellite office were to be located here, our engineers would be able to work with universities and the USPTO to help educate patent examiners on the cutting edge technologies that are prevalent in this area. We believe that collaboration between Silicon Valley inventors and the USPTO is vital to refining the patent application process overall and maximizing innovation nationwide.

If you would like to discuss this matter further, please do not hesitate to contact me at (408) 544-4110 or tcross@ssi.samsung.com.

Sincerely,



Terrence H. Cross
Vice President and General Counsel
Samsung Semiconductor, Inc.

January 20, 2012

To the USPTO:

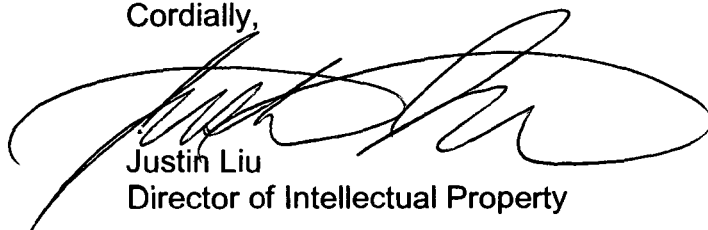
On behalf of Xilinx, I would like to express our support for a satellite patent office in Silicon Valley. Both Xilinx and this part of California have a rich history of innovation, and would benefit from such a partnership with the USPTO.

Establishing a regional office in Silicon Valley would facilitate reducing the number of pending patents in the system and enhance communication between the USPTO and the local patent applicant community due to the availability of technology experts in the region and reducing travel time between applicants and examiners. The time and expense of travel to Alexandria, Virginia, is significant reason Xilinx has not conducted many in-person interviews, and having a local regional office would allow us to change our practices.

Our company files several hundred patent applications per year, most by engineers residing in the Valley. The life cycles of products in the technology industry are short when compared to the average pendency of patents. The more quickly our pending patents are processed, the better our company can continue to innovate in our industry. An office here in the Valley would allow our engineers and patent practitioners to develop close working relationships with patent examiners and ensure the approval of high quality patents.

If a satellite office were to be located here, our company, in partnership with local universities, would be able to partner with the USPTO to help educate patent examiners on cutting edge technologies. For example we would be able to host training and education seminars, or provide product demonstrations. We believe that collaboration between Silicon Valley inventors and the USPTO is vital to refining the patent application process overall and maximizing innovation nationwide.

Cordially,



Justin Liu
Director of Intellectual Property



6150 Hellyer Avenue, San Jose, CA, 95138; Phone: 408-715-7510 Fax: 408-715-2549

January 17, 2012

To USPTO:

On behalf of Cognilytics, Inc. we would like to express our support for a satellite patent office in Silicon Valley.

Establishing a regional office in Silicon Valley would facilitate reducing the number of pending patents in the system and enhance communication between the USPTO and the patent applicant community due to the availability of technology experts in the region and reducing travel time between applicants and examiners.

The life cycles of products in the technology industry are short, often less than a year, while the average pendency of patents is more than three years. The more quickly our pending patents are processed, the better our company can continue to compete in the innovation space. An office here in the Valley would reduce the time to file and allow our engineers to develop close working relationships with patent examiners to ensure the approval of high quality patents.

If a satellite office were to be located here, our company would be able to partner with universities and the USPTO to help educate patent examiners on cutting edge technologies and we could potentially provide meeting space, education/training and product demonstrations. We believe that collaboration between Silicon Valley inventors and the USPTO is vital to refining the patent application process overall and maximizing innovation nationwide.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gary Gauba".

Gary Gauba
Chairman & CEO
Cognilytics, Inc.

January 20, 2012

Dear USPTO:

On behalf of Grandis, Inc., we would like to express our support for a satellite patent office in Silicon Valley.

Establishing a regional office in Silicon Valley would facilitate reducing the number of pending patents in the system and enhance communication between the USPTO and the patent applicant community due to the availability of technology experts in the region and reducing travel time between applicants and examiners.

Our company files on average 20 utility patent applications per year but the number of filing is increasing rapidly as we are developing the technology to be the mainstream in semiconductor industry. The life cycles of process technologies and products are short, often less than a year, while the average pendency of patents is more than three years. The more quickly our pending patents are processed, the better our company can continue to compete in the innovation space. An office here in the Valley would reduce the time to file and allow our engineers to develop close working relationships with patent examiners to ensure the approval of high quality patents.

If a satellite office were to be located here, our company would be able to partner with universities and the USPTO to help educate patent examiners on cutting edge technologies. We believe that collaboration between Silicon Valley inventors and the USPTO is vital to refining the patent application process overall and maximizing innovation nationwide.

Sincerely,

Tony Jung

Director of Intellectual Property
Registered U.S. Patent Agent
Grandis, Inc.

1123 Cadillac Court
Milpitas, CA 95035, USA



Pacific Development and Technology, LLC

999 Commercial Street, Suite 205, Palo Alto, CA 94303

650-320-8841 *voice*

650-230-1356 *fax*

info@pacdel.com

www.pacdel.com

January 12, 2012

To USPTO:

On behalf of Pacific Development and Technology, LLC, we would like to express our support for a satellite patent office in Silicon Valley. Establishing a regional office in Silicon Valley would facilitate reducing the number of pending patents in the system and enhance communication between the USPTO and the patent applicant community due to the availability of technology experts in the region and reducing travel time between applicants and examiners.

Our company is a new start, but we eventually expect to file one or more patent applications per year. The life cycles of products in the technology industry are short, often less than a year, while the average pendency of patents is more than three years. The more quickly our pending patents are processed, the better our company can continue to compete in the innovation space. An office here in the Valley would reduce the time to file and allow our staff to develop close working relationships with patent examiners to ensure the approval of high quality patents.

If a satellite office were to be located here, our company would be able to partner with universities and the USPTO to help educate patent examiners on cutting edge technologies. We believe that collaboration between Silicon Valley inventors and the USPTO is vital to refining the patent application process overall and maximizing innovation nationwide.

Sincerely,

Leonard J. Trejo, Ph.D.
CEO



January 16, 2012

To USPTO:

On behalf of Virtual Instruments, we would like to express our support for a satellite patent office in Silicon Valley.

Establishing a regional office in Silicon Valley would facilitate reducing the number of pending patents in the system and enhance communication between the USPTO and the patent applicant community due to the availability of technology experts in the region and reducing travel time between applicants and examiners.

The life cycles of products in the technology industry can be quite short, often less than a year, while the average pendency of patents is more than three years. The more quickly our pending patents are processed, the better our company can continue to compete in a rapidly changing industry driven by new innovation every day. An office here in the Valley would reduce the time to file and allow our engineers to develop close working relationships with patent examiners to ensure they understand the nature of our filing and ensure higher quality patents.

If a satellite office were to be located here, our company would be able to partner with universities and the USPTO to help educate patent examiners on cutting edge technologies. We believe that collaboration between Silicon Valley inventors and the USPTO is vital to refining the patent application process overall and maximizing innovation nationwide. Furthermore, we think an office in Silicon Valley will strengthen our industry's global competitiveness and ensure continued job creation for years to come.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J.W. Thompson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

John W. Thompson
CEO, Virtual Instruments



David Cush CEO

January 24, 2012

Azam Khan
Deputy Chief of Staff,
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Mail Stop Office of Under Secretary and Director
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Mr. Khan:


We understand the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) is considering alternate locations for the establishment of two future USPTO satellite offices pursuant to Section 23 of the America Invents Act (AIA). On behalf of Virgin America, the largest US airline headquartered in California, we would urge the USPTO to establish its next satellite office in the Silicon Valley area of California.

The Silicon Valley region is home to many of the nation's leading technology and Internet companies including Apple, Cisco, Google, Intel, HP, Oracle, Yahoo, and Facebook. In addition, this region is home to a number of outstanding colleges and universities, including Stanford University and the University of California, Berkeley. The success of these technology companies and universities has, in turn, created a geographic region with a highly skilled and innovative workforce with numerous experts and legal professionals handling patent and intellectual property matters.

The spirit of innovation that has made Silicon Valley a hotspot for innovation and technology patent filings over the past decade would provide an ideal environment for the USPTO's efforts to recruit and retain a highly skilled workforce. In addition, a local office would provide numerous opportunities to enhance communication between the USPTO and the large number of technology patent applicants in this community. This enhanced dialogue between commercial applicants and patent examiners would, in turn, facilitate quality improvements in the patent application and examination process. A California USPTO office would also offer geographic balance to the USPTO headquarters in metropolitan Washington, D.C. and the planned regional office in Detroit, Michigan.

Last week, Virgin America hosted a luncheon meeting for Silicon Valley companies, patent owners and legal counsel to discuss current developments in the patent marketplace. This is just the type of meeting where the local community of lawyers, experts, and patent applicant companies would have benefitted from hearing the perspective of patent examiners working in a local USPTO office. We would urge the USPTO to establish a satellite office in this region to provide an opportunity for the local patent community to enhance its dialogue with the USPTO.

Sincerely,



David Cush

January 12, 2012

Via Email

satelliteoffices@uspto.gov

United States Patent and Trademark Office


On behalf of the IP Law Program at the Golden Gate University School of Law, we would like to express our strong support for the establishment of a satellite patent office in Silicon Valley.

Having a new regional office of the U.S.P.T.O. in Silicon Valley would be beneficial for a number of reasons. Perhaps most importantly, it would facilitate the expeditious examination of patents, thereby reducing the number of patents pending in the system. Moreover, it is especially appropriate to create a new satellite office in Silicon Valley precisely because this is where much of the innovation and patented inventions that have dramatically shaped the U.S. and world economies over the past decades have emanated.


A new satellite PTO office in Silicon Valley also makes much sense because the Bay Area is one of the most sophisticated and deep markets for intellectual property lawyers in the world. All of the Bay Area law schools have strong IP law programs that train hundreds of patent and IP lawyers each year, many of whom would welcome the opportunity to work with and for the PTO. Moreover, many of the Bay Area's law students would benefit from the opportunities to serve as externs and otherwise develop a relationship with the PTO.

We believe that collaboration between Silicon Valley inventors, IP lawyers, IP law students, and the USPTO is vital to innovation nationwide. Having a Silicon Valley satellite office would be an important step to fostering that innovation and the economic development such innovations provides.

Sincerely,



Professors Marc H. Greenberg
Co-Director, IP Law Program



William T. Gallagher
Co-Director, IP Law Program

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January 6, 2012

To USPTO:

On behalf of Coulomb Technologies, we would like to express our support for a satellite patent office in Silicon Valley.

Establishing a regional office in Silicon Valley would facilitate reducing the number of pending patents in the system and enhance communication between the USPTO and the patent applicant community due to the availability of technology experts in the region and reducing travel time between applicants and examiners.

Our company files on average 12 patent applications per year. The life cycles of products in the technology industry are short, often less than a year, while the average pendency of patents is more than three years. The more quickly our pending patents are processed, the more our company is incented to innovate. An office here in the Valley would reduce the time to file and allow our engineers to develop close working relationships with patent examiners to ensure the approval of high quality patents.

We believe that collaboration between Silicon Valley inventors and the USPTO is vital to refining the patent application process overall and maximizing innovation nationwide.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Richard Lowenthal", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Richard Lowenthal
Founder and Chief Technical Officer



January 24, 2012

To United States Patent and Trademark Office:

On behalf of Primus Power, we would like to express our support for a satellite patent office in Silicon Valley.

Establishing a regional office in Silicon Valley would facilitate reducing the number of pending patents in the system and enhance communication between the USPTO and the patent applicant community due to the availability of technology experts in the region and reducing travel time between applicants and examiners. Further, it also substantially reduces the cost of flying the patent attorney to our location to align the IP process every quarter.

Our company files on an average 20 engineering and technology related patent applications per year. The life cycles of products in the technology industry are short, often less than a year, while the average pendency of patents is more than three years. The more quickly our pending patents are processed, the better our company can continue to compete in the innovation space. An office here in the Valley would reduce the time to file and allow our engineers to develop close working relationships with patent examiners to ensure the approval of high quality patents.

If a satellite office were to be located here, our company would be able to partner with universities and the USPTO to help educate patent examiners on cutting edge technologies. We can foster the association by providing our office space and other facilities for training and demonstrations, and in turn gain the advantage of getting our employees trained in the IP filing process much efficiently. We believe that collaboration between Silicon Valley inventors and the USPTO is vital to refining the patent application process overall and maximizing innovation nationwide.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tom Stepien".

Tom Stepien
CEO, Primus Power



January 18, 2012

Dear USPTO;

On behalf of the Solaria Corporation located in Fremont California, I would like to voice our strong support of the establishment of a USPTO satellite office in Silicon Valley.

Our support for this office underlines the overall importance that U.S. patents play in Solaria's ability to commercialize our technology, maintain a competitive advantage in the global economy, and provide an opportunity for our investors to earn a fair return on their investment. As a fast growing solar manufacturer with new innovative technologies, the ability to quickly and effectively protect our inventions is as important as the invention itself.

With the introduction of a Silicon Valley office, our analysis shows that the patent backlog could be reduced, queue times would dramatically improve, and access to the examiners would be significantly increased and be less costly. Solaria has a multitude of patents under examination at the patent office in Alexandria. In many cases, the patents have been in various stages of examination for over 5 years. When possible, we have been able to visit Alexandria. The cost and time commitment is excessive and significantly affects our ability to be more proactive in filing new patents and pursuing existing applications.

One of the main reasons Solaria is located in the Silicon Valley area, is to tap the wonderful culture of innovation and utilize the infrastructure that supports this innovative culture. This includes access to the best venture capital environment in the world, some of the best universities in the world, and a tremendously gifted and skillful workforce. The one major missing part of the 'innovation' infrastructure is a local USPTO office. We urge you to consider this request.

Regards;

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kevin Gibson".

Kevin Gibson
CTO



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Cc: Senator Diane Feinstein
The Honorable John Garamendi