THE INNOVATION CENTER
out of the box,
into the world

January 5, 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, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Mr. Khan,

The Innovation Center would like to express my support for The Gulf Coast Patent Association's comment proving the strong advantages of the United States Patent and Trademark Office locating a satellite office in a central location in the Central Gulf Coast region of Southeast Louisiana / Southwest Mississippi. The Innovation Center knows that having a USPTO satellite office in the greater New Orleans, Louisiana region will provide greatly improved access to the USPTO, support Departmental objectives including Commerce Connect, and increase collaborations among Commerce bureaus throughout the southern states of the Austin and Atlanta Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration regions. The USPTO satellite office itself will provide a positive impact to the greater New Orleans region still recovering from the effects of Hurricane Katrina and the BP oil spill.

The Innovation Center is a business incubator that assists small businesses to launch new firms which create new jobs and new wealth. Clearly, the location of a USPTO office within greater New Orleans will help our organization accomplish its goals, allow for increased workflow, stimulate the development of higher quality technologies, and greatly enhance the commercialization of those technologies throughout our region.

A USPTO satellite office in any location within the greater New Orleans area would provide easy access to our organization and any organization from Texas to Florida. In addition, with rapidly growing infrastructure, excellent tax incentives for businesses, and high quality of life indicators, the greater New Orleans region is a logical choice for a USPTO satellite office. The Innovation Center looks forward to your review of all of the comments and urges the USPTO to support this comment.

Sincerely;
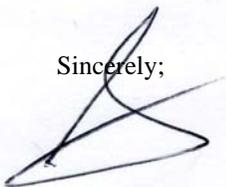
Stephen Whitt
Executive Director