November 10, 2020

Scott C. Weidenfeller  
Vice Chief Administrative Patent Judge  
Patent Trial and Appeal Board  
US Patent and Trademark Office  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314


Dear Judge Weidenfeller,

As the Founder and CEO of Vista Engineering and Consulting LLC in Birmingham, Alabama, I am submitting comments on the above-captioned Request for Comments published in 85 Fed. Reg. 66502 (October 20, 2020), (“RFC”). We strongly support Director Iancu’s proposal to promulgate new regulations to help strengthen intellectual property in America. Our company has 6 employees, and we develop and produce products for Manufacturing and telecom. The Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) program has helped fund our company. We currently have 5 patent assets and more pending and patents play a significant role in our current and future growth. Without strong patents, we cannot thrive and support the American economy.

The American Invents Act (AIA) has hurt our ability to monetize our intellectual property. Proposed new regulations by the USPTO will help mitigate some of the devastation that the AIA and other US Supreme Court decisions have wreaked upon us by hurting our ability to either license our technology or compete without large company “efficient infringers.”

We strongly support the Small Business Technology Council’s (SBTC’s) position on the proposed regulations. Please see their letter dated November 10, 2020 (attached).

Please feel free to contact me with any questions at rthompson@vistaeng.com

Sincerely,

Raymond Thompson  PhD, PE  
CEO

Fellow National Academy of Forensic Engineering  
Fellow American Society for Metals and Materials  
Fellow American Welding Society