



**ELECTRONICS**

**SAMSUNG SEMICONDUCTOR, INC.**

Office of the General Counsel  
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January 23, 2012

Via U.S. Mail

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

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](mailto:tcross@ssi.samsung.com).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Terrence H. Cross". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

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