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Greenwood Village, CO 80111

January 20, 2012

Director David Kappos
c/o U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Director Kappos:

I am writing to you on behalf of Senator Michael Bennet and the company I work for, Prescient, to emphasize the value of opening a USPTO satellite office in Colorado, particularly in the Denver area.

The principals of my company initially began working in the real estate development business in Chicago, but have been primarily operating in the Denver area for the past fifteen years. Our company has been involved in the design, engineering, and construction of more than 1000 residences as well as commercial and retail development.

After the economic downturn and the collapse of the real estate market in 2008, we began pioneering a platform to eliminate inefficiencies in the current design and building process. Our efforts led to the development of game-changing technology for our industry; a cold-formed steel framing system capable of going to twelve stories that is cost competitive with wood and significantly less expensive than cast-in-place concrete and/or hot rolled steel. Our system's performance in seismic zones will have a global impact on the way buildings are constructed.

Given its cost advantages, our technology will jumpstart the real estate development industry, which is a significant driver of the US and global economies. We are a breakout company with an industry changing technology. We are dependent upon our ability to protect the Intellectual Property that we have worked so hard to develop.

We have been hesitant to aggressively ramp up our business because we have yet to be granted our US patent and we are concerned about being able to protect our IP. The patent process has been frustrating and costly. Issuing patents on deserving invention must be expedited. It would allow companies like ours to bring beneficial innovation to market quicker with assurance that our investment is protected.

A USPTO satellite office in Colorado would be incredibly beneficial to us as well as other innovators throughout the western United States. This office could expedite the patent process and allow us to reach the full potential of our invention much sooner. Colorado has emerged as one of the best places to operate a small business and, with cities such as Denver and Boulder, it has attracted and retained a highly educated, specialized, and innovative work force. A satellite office would give better access to local and regional innovators to the patent and review process and help the region attract capital to grow the already burgeoning entrepreneurial enterprises in the region.

The number of patent filers and innovators in a region must not be the only criteria for opening up a USPTO satellite office. One important factor must be that the area has the ability to retain quality patent examiners. The quality of life in Colorado is hard to compete with. The Rocky Mountains are the main attraction in the state and offer a variety of outdoor activities throughout the year. The cities of Denver and Boulder are great urban, cultural centers. The weather is clement, even in the winter. "300 days of sunshine" is not an exaggeration. I have noticed that most of the residents of Colorado that I have met are not originally from here, but are transplants who came out here initially for a job or the mountains and have stayed.

The state of Colorado, and Denver in particular, is the ideal location for a satellite office for a number of reasons. Denver is the capital and is the business center of not just the state, but also arguably the region. It is home to multiple universities and is in close proximity to the University of Colorado in Boulder. Denver is also incredibly accessible, as it is home to the fifth busiest airport in the US. The quality of life in Denver is another reason so many people move here. It offers the benefits of urban living while only being a short drive from the activities that the mountains have to offer.

Our company fully supports Senator Bennet's initiative for a USPTO satellite office in Denver. Feel free to contact me directly with any questions.

Sincerely,



Brendan McDonough
Prescient
773-965-9387