



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

RE: Support of a USPTO satellite office in Colorado

Dear Mr. Kappos:

I am writing to provide Numerica Corporation's endorsement of a USPTO satellite office in Colorado.

Northern Colorado-based Numerica Corporation researches and develops advanced algorithms and software for tracking targets, fusing data, managing uncertainty and integrating networks. Our state-of-the-art solutions translate massive data streams into real-time, actionable information for the U.S. Department of Defense, NASA, and a variety of defense industry customers.

Information science technology is rapidly advancing in the defense industry. To remain competitive as a small business, it is critical that Numerica quickly pursue and retain exclusive rights to its intellectual property. We currently hold four U.S. patents (5,406,289; 5,537,119; 5,959,574; 6,404,380-B2) that protect award-winning approaches to tracking and sensor fusion, and we are pursuing patent protection for additional technologies.

While we believe the value of Numerica resides in the talented people who work here, we also recognize that much of our company value is tied to our intellectual property holdings. Numerica was founded in 1996 as a direct result of our first patent filing. Numerica fully recognizes that our continued growth is largely tied to our pursuit of intellectual property holdings that allow our small business to offer value-added solutions to the U.S. Government and commercial customers. Indeed, Numerica continues to aggressively pursue patents, copyrights, trade secrets, and other forms of intellectual property as a core business growth strategy.

As our nation changes from a first-to-invent to a first-to-file patent system, it will become increasingly important for Colorado companies, such as Numerica, to have immediate access to important USPTO resources and be able to pursue a patent as quickly as possible. The presence of a USPTO satellite office in Colorado will help expedite the process for companies across the western U.S. by providing the local resources, both U.S. Government and private, to ensure timely prosecution of patents.

A USPTO satellite office in Colorado will also likely increase the quantity and quality of the pool of intellectual property professionals and resources in our region. Presently, Numerica is often forced to look outside our own borders to other, more expensive, locations such as Washington D.C., to find professionals who are able to understand the highly complex mathematics and science concepts involved in Numerica's patent applications. As a small business, this can be financially burdensome for Numerica, and it places us at a competitive disadvantage in the market place. The presence of a USPTO satellite office in Colorado will draw more professionals to the region who will offer more reasonable market-driven rates, thereby lowering the costs of filing a patent and likely increasing the number of patents filed in the highly entrepreneurial western U.S.

Many Colorado companies, like Numerica, employ a can-do entrepreneurial spirit, they forge strong collaborative relationships, they are working on state-of-the-art technologies, and they are highly engaged in the technology transfer and commercialization process. Numerica was one of the first technology transfer companies to spin out of Colorado State University – a thriving research institution that has launched, and continues to incubate, several high-tech companies and

"superclusters" in the rapidly growing areas of clean energy and the biosciences. Colorado provides an excellent climate for business innovation, and the Denver-metro area would be a natural and wise location for a future USPTO satellite office.

Colorado is also an ideal location for USPTO employee attraction and retention. Colorado communities offer a variety of safe, affordable housing opportunities for employees and their families. *Money* magazine consistently ranks Northern Colorado communities as the top places to live in the nation. Award-winning schools, arts and culture, the abundance of universities, economic stability, relatively low cost of living, commitment to innovation and sustainability, and access to boundless outdoor recreation, are just a few quality-of-life reasons why our 50 employees were attracted to Northern Colorado. Because of the nature of our work, Numerica could be located anywhere in the United States, but we choose to stay in Colorado for those reasons listed above and more.

For companies like Numerica, a USPTO satellite office in Colorado may be the difference between a timely filing and a missed opportunity to patent an invention. A satellite office in Colorado will provide more reasonable costs for filing patents, provide timely resources that are currently not available in this area, and encourage additional patent filings from small businesses, which will lead to more growth in the technology industry and ultimately more jobs for the nation.

I respectfully encourage you to select Colorado as the location for a future USPTO satellite office. Please feel free to contact me for more information at (970) 612-2311 or jeff.poore@numerica.us. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Jeff Poore, President and COO
Numerica Corporation