

January 10, 2012

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

Dear Mr. Kappos:

I understand that the US Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) is considering opening a regional satellite office, and Blue Canyon Technologies (BCT) would like to express its support for locating that office in Denver, CO.

BCT is a small business that was formed in 2008, and located in Boulder, Colorado. Our company focus is on developing new and innovative spacecraft technologies. We are the winner of three SBIR grants from the Air Force Research Lab for the development of components that increase the performance of small satellites for use by the Defense Department and for the commercial and civil aerospace industry. One of the key success factors for our company is being able to protect our intellectual property within the limited time and funding available. If we cannot protect our intellectual property, then the innovation will likely not be commercialized (i.e., the company will dissolve), or it will be absorbed by a larger company, usually one of the prime aerospace contractors.

A more central location of a U.S. Patent & Trademark Office will support entrepreneurial companies like ours and, therefore, facilitate the commercialization of new innovations and the creation of new jobs in the U.S. Western region. For example, clarifying patent application issues, which can be a long and arduous process by email, is expedited due to the ability to travel to a more geographically affordable region. This increases the likelihood of entrepreneurial success within the time and funding frames available, reduces overhead costs, and lessens the risk of a technology not being commercialized or being absorbed by a larger prime contractor.

In summary, Blue Canyon Technologies strongly supports locating a USPTO regional office in Denver. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

George Stafford  
President  
[stafford@bluecanyontech.com](mailto:stafford@bluecanyontech.com)