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**Edward J. Black**  
**President & CEO**

August 28, 2001

United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Box 4  
Attn: Velica Steadman  
Washington, D.C. 20231

RE: Draft Hague Convention on Jurisdiction and Foreign Judgment in Civil and Commercial Matters

Dear Ms. Steadman:

On behalf of the Computer & Communications and Industry Association (CCIA) I would like to request the opportunity to submit written comments on this pending matter.

CCIA is a nonprofit membership organization for information technology and telecommunications companies, as represented by their most senior executives. Our companies are of every size and operate all over the world. Our members include computer, communications and networking equipment manufacturers, software providers, re-sellers, integrators, telecom and online service providers, financial services companies, and others that operate in the high-tech economy. Our member companies employ almost one million workers and generate over \$300 billion in annual revenue. Our member companies include; AOLTime Warner, AT&T, Oracle, Sun Microsystems, Verizon, and Yahoo!.

I appreciate the opportunity to comment on this timely issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ed Black', written over a horizontal line.

Ed Black