

For Immediate Release

Contact: Shannon Feaster 202-828-5725

GOP LAUNCHES HIGH TECH WORKING GROUP; UNVEILS PRO-TECH AGENDA

September 17, 2003 Washington, DC -- The Information Technology Industry Council (ITI) today applauded House Republicans for reestablishing the High Tech Working Group (HTWG) and developing a strong high tech growth agenda. At a press conference this afternoon, Speaker Dennis Hastert, HTWG Chairman Bob Goodlatte and other GOP leaders announced the re-launch of the HTWG and revealed the group's priorities. The HTWG pledged to "build on existing accomplishments and continue advancing techfriendly initiatives".

ITI President Rhett Dawson issued the following statement in response to the announcement:

"This has been a pro-tech Congress that has been with us when we needed them. They have worked with us on a series of issues, including passing a strong economic growth package with key tech provisions, enacting trade promotion authority legislation and approving market-opening trade agreements, and making significant progress on other important IT priorities.

"We thank the House Republicans for creating a robust agenda that promotes leadership, growth and competitiveness of U.S. high tech companies. We look forward to working with them and the U.S. Senate to get additional pro-tech legislation through this Congress."

ITI represents the leading U.S. providers of information technology products and services. ITI is the voice of the high tech community, advocating policies that advance U.S. leadership in technology and innovation; open access to new and emerging global markets; support e-commerce expansion; protect consumer privacy and preserve consumer choice; and enhance the global competitiveness of it member companies.

ITI member companies include Accenture, Agilent Technologies, AOL Time Warner, Apple, Canon U.S.A., Cisco, Corning, Dell, Eastman Kodak, eBay, EMC, Hewlett-Packard, IBM, Intel, Lexmark, Microsoft, Motorola, National Semiconductor, NCR, Oracle, Panasonic, SGI, Sony Electronics, Sun Microsystems, Symbol Technologies, Tektronix, and Unisys. For more information, contact Shannon Feaster at sfeaster@itic.org.



CONTACT: SHARON GRACE (703) 907-7721

sgrace@tiaonline.org

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TIA PRAISES HOUSE HIGH-TECH WORKING GROUP

Arlington, Va. -- The Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA) applauds the launch of the House Republican High-Tech Working Group (HTWG) announced today and its focus on technology issues for the rest of the 108th Congress.

"We praise the efforts of the House leadership in reactivating the High-Tech Working Group. This renewed commitment to advancing tech-friendly initiatives is welcome news to our sector and should encourage the continued rebound of the high-tech industry as a whole," stated TIA President Matthew J. Flanigan.

Flanigan continued, "TIA strongly supports the efforts of House Speaker J. Dennis Hastert (R-III.) and Representative Bob Goodlatte (R-Va.) for their leadership on policy issues the association believes are critical to the recovery of the telecommunications sector."

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The Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA) is the leading trade organization serving the communications and IT industry, with proven strengths in standards development, domestic and international public policy, and trade shows. Through its worldwide activities, TIA facilitates business development opportunities and a competitive market environment. The association provides a forum for its member companies, the manufacturers and suppliers of products and services used in global communications. TIA represents the communications sector of the Electronic Industries Alliance (EIA). Visit us at http://www.tiaonline.org.

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2500 Wilson Boulevard Suite 300 Arlington, VA 22201-3834

> +1.703.907.7700 FAX +1.703.907.7727 www.tiaonline.org



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www.ta.doc.gov

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Contact: Connie Correll 202/482-1065

Connie.correll@ta.doc.gov

Bond Praises House Republican High-Tech Working Group Initiatives

Administration Pledges to work with Group to Advance Pro-Growth Policies

Under Secretary of Commerce for Technology Phil Bond praised Congressman Bob Goodlatte (R-VA) and members of the House Republican High-Tech Working Group for the visionary set of goals they released today.

"These are pro-growth, pro-innovation issues," said Bond. "Congressman Goodlatte and members of the working group deserve much credit for their continued leadership in advancing issues critical to the long term health of the technology sector."

"The Bush Administration, especially the Technology Administration, looks forward to working with the group to ensure these issues are addressed and America's technology industry continues to be a job creator," concluded Bond.

The Technology Administration (TA) serves as a portal between the federal government and the technology community. TA's primary mission is to maximize technology's contribution to America's economic growth and global leadership.

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