
1. RECAPTURE GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS

- a) *Market Access & Trade* – Securing access to international markets by promoting trade liberalization market-based and technology neutral approach to regulation in key international markets.
- b) *Research & Development* – Strategic and robust U.S. investment in telecommunications research including a permanent R&D tax credit, multi-year federal research plans, and a commitment to long-term research will enable the U.S. to remain a technology industry leader.
- c) *Education & Talent* – The future of the ICT industry in the U.S. depends on providing the necessary support for education in science, engineering, and technology for our students while enacting H-1B visa reforms to allow companies to attract and retain the best and brightest minds from around the world.
- d) *Tax Reform* – The President has announced a decision to press for tax reform in the 112th Congress. Such reform will affect the competitiveness of U.S. firms which are already disadvantaged by virtue of the fact the U.S. corporate tax rate is the second highest in the world. TIA will press for reform that will cut the effective U.S. corporate tax rate to a level that will enhance the international competitiveness of U.S. firms.

2. DRIVE INVESTMENT

- a) *Tax Incentives*– Through incremental tax credits, expensing, and bonds, the U.S. Government can increase investment in our nation's next-generation broadband infrastructure.
- b) *Market Based Regulations* – A continued light-touch approach to regulations, as well as certainty in the marketplace will ensure continued investment in a technology neutral manner.

3. ENABLE FORWARD-LOOKING TECHNOLOGIES

- a) *Spectrum Availability* –Innovative, next-generation wireless devices, applications, and services requires spectrum availability for fixed and mobile broadband use; this can be achieved through voluntary incentive auctions, flexible regulations and reallocation of federal spectrum where feasible.
- b) *Global Cyber Security* – Promoting global approaches to cyber security policies in the U.S. and internationally to avoid policies that could negatively impact market access, interoperability and global security.
- c) *Green ICT & Smart Grid* – Appropriate policies driving ICT's potential to reduce energy consumption in other more energy-intensive sectors through smart grid, smart buildings and travel substitution are key to create jobs and help U.S. industry compete successfully in global markets.
- d) *Accessibility* – by encouraging collaboration among stakeholders and the usage of voluntary consensus based standards the U.S. Government can increase the accessibility of technology by those with disabilities, encourage innovation and in doing so open up new employment opportunities for this vulnerable community.

TIA Positions

1. RECAPTURE GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS

- a) *Market Access & Trade* – Securing access to international markets by promoting trade liberalization and market-based and technology neutral approach to regulation in key international markets.

TIA TRADE POSITION:

- Business development opportunities for suppliers should be facilitated by promoting full, fair, and open competition in international markets.
- Trade agreements should be promoted that eliminate or reduce traditional market access barriers and technical barriers to trade.
- Enforce existing commitments by signatories to the WTO BTA, Information Technology Agreement (ITA), Government Procurement Agreement (GPA), and Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT).
- Communications services must be liberalized on a technology-neutral basis.
- Bilateral and multilateral telecom agreements should provide for transparency, independent regulatory authority, nondiscrimination against foreign suppliers, and technology neutrality.
- Support the development and implementation of export control mechanisms that enhance the abilities of companies to export their products overseas.
- Modernize U. S. export control regime to increase transparency and clearly delineate jurisdiction between Commerce and State Departments.

- b) *Research & Development* – Strategic and robust U.S. investment in telecommunications research including a permanent R&D tax credit, multi-year federal research plans, and a commitment to long-term research will enable the U.S. to remain a technology industry leader.

TIA R&D POSITION:

- Increased federal research funding must be allocated for network and communications-specific, pre-competitive, basic research.
- The U.S. government must make long-term communications research a priority and funds need to be directed to key areas: universal broadband; security; interoperable mobility; and homeland security related fields including interoperability, security, survivability and encryption.

- c) *Education & Talent* – The future of the ICT industry in the U.S. depends on providing the necessary support for education in science, engineering, and technology for our students while enacting H-1B visa reforms to allow companies to attract and retain the best and brightest minds from around the world.

TIA EDUCATION & TALENT POSITION:

- Enactment of H-1B visa reform should allow for the facilitation and retention of engineers and scientists in the United States, improving and strengthening our domestic workforce.
- Congress must reauthorize the America COMPETES Act (PL 110-69) and maintain a commitment to invest in STEM education to help ensure that America is educating the workforce of the future.

- d) *Tax Reform* – The President has announced a decision to press for tax reform in the 112th Congress. Such reform will affect the competitiveness of U.S. firms which are already disadvantaged by virtue of the fact the U.S. corporate tax rate is the second highest in the world. TIA will press for reform that will cut the effective U.S. corporate tax rate to a level that will enhance the international competitiveness of U.S. firms.

TIA TAX REFORM POSITION:

- Congress must pass legislation to reduce the overall corporate tax rate and which creates a lower tax rate for repatriated funds which will encourage domestic investment and boost our nation's economy.

2. DRIVE INVESTMENT

- a) *Tax Incentives* – Through incremental tax credits, expensing, and bonds, the U.S. Government can increase investment in our nation's next-generation broadband infrastructure.

TIA TAX POSITION:

- Tax policies should be implemented that will drive investment in broadband through tiered tax incentives that accelerate as the speed offered by such service increases, recognizing differing tiers and floors depending on the technology deployed.
- The U.S. must enact a permanent R&D credit which will allow companies to make long term research plans while being assured that the credit will continue for the life of the project.

- b) *Market Based Regulations* – A continued light-touch approach to regulations, as well as certainty in the marketplace will ensure continued investment in a technology neutral manner.

TIA MARKET-BASED SOLUTIONS POSITION:

- Government must enhance efforts to stimulate investment and innovation in next-generation broadband deployment and adoption.
- Network operators should have the ability to engage in pro-competitive network management.
- Technology and service neutrality are critical; when regulation is necessary, it should be structured to promote competition among existing and emerging platforms and providers.
- Government should ensure uniformity in regulation for IP-enabled services through exclusive federal jurisdiction of IP-enabled services by the Federal Communications Commission, which leads to increased certainty and investment in the marketplace.
- Technology mandates by the government hamstring innovation and increase consumer costs.

3. ENABLE FORWARD-LOOKING TECHNOLOGIES

- a) *Spectrum Availability* –Innovative, next-generation wireless mobile devices, applications, and services requires spectrum availability for fixed and mobile broadband use; this can be achieved through voluntary incentive auctions, flexible regulations and reallocation of federal spectrum where feasible.

TIA SPECTRUM POSITION:

- Congress should promptly grant the FCC voluntary incentive auction authority, allowing current licensees and the federal government to reap financial benefits from spectrum being made available for wireless broadband.
- Government should adopt forward-looking, market-oriented spectrum management policies and seek additional spectrum allocations for mobile broadband services, and finalize any remaining issues regarding deployment of an interoperable public safety communications network.
- Global harmonization and coordination of spectrum allocations should be a priority.
- Technology and service neutrality is key- the principle that service providers must be given the flexibility to independently choose technologies and platforms based on commercial and competitive considerations.
- Government policies should encourage a stable regulatory environment that relies primarily on market forces and avoids government intrusion into new and evolving services.
- Government should maximize the public benefits of spectrum use by controlling harmful interference, fostering competition, and quickly implementing the recommendations from the NBP calling for 300 MHz of spectrum available by 2015 and 500 MHz available by 2020.
- Responsible governmental agencies should coordinate to ensure that additional spectrum for advanced wireless services is made available in a timely manner.
- Spectrum allocation and assignment should be made by open and transparent processes that are market-driven and provide for government/industry consultation. Forward-looking management of radio spectrum is essential to the goal of making telecommunications services accessible and to ensuring that the public derives maximum benefit from its use.

- b) *Global Cyber Security* – Promoting global approaches to cyber security policies in the U.S. and internationally to avoid policies that could negatively impact market access, interoperability and global security.

TIA CYBER SECURITY POSITION:

- Government and industry must partner to increase the number of dialogues between industry and government (domestic and foreign) experts to discuss international best practices. Use international best practices relevant to the products at issue (IT or telecom) when developing cyber security policies.
- Support cyber security policies that keep markets open and minimize barriers to trade.
- Urge policymakers to ensure that any expansion of the Communications Assistance for Law Enforcement Act (CALEA) does not chill innovation and ensures technology neutrality.
- The United States must serve as a leader in developing national cyber security priorities, risk assessments, and security recommendations to the private sector and the Federal government.

- c) *Green ICT & Smart Grid* – Appropriate federal-level policies driving ICT’s potential to reduce energy consumption in other more energy-intensive sectors through smart grid, smart buildings and travel substitution are key to create jobs and help U.S. industry compete successfully in global markets.

TIA GREEN ICT POSITION:

- Government adoption of appropriate policies driving ICT’s potential to reduce energy consumption in other more energy-intensive sectors through smart grid, smart building systems (lighting, DC power, HVAC, etc.), smart devices (sensors, intelligent electronics, etc.) and travel substitution are keys to create jobs and help U.S. industry compete successfully in global markets.
- Promote the role of ICT as clean technology in reducing energy consumption and carbon emissions.
- Allow for private and secure consumer and third-party access to energy usage and pricing data to unlock the potential of the smart grid.
- Promote technology neutrality in smart grid policy to encourage competition and innovation.
- Support funding for both R&D and deployment of green ICTs, such as smart grid.
- Encourage greater adoption of telework and videoconferencing to facilitate travel substitution.
- Educate policy-makers ICT’s ability to improve energy efficiency through substitution of ICT in place of outdated technologies (e.g., travel substitution).

- d) *Accessibility* – by encouraging collaboration among stakeholders and the usage of voluntary consensus based standards the U.S. Government can increase the accessibility of technology by those with disabilities, encourage innovation and in doing so open up new employment opportunities for this vulnerable community.

TIA ACCESSIBILITY POSITION:

- USF programs, such as Lifeline and Link-up, should be extended to fund broadband services and equipment for low-income Americans, since many consumers with disabilities live on a fixed income.
- Proactive discussions with the disability community and other stakeholders lead to the incorporation of accessible solutions into member companies’ product development process.
- The government should promote the development of voluntary industry standards to address accessibility needs, such as TIA-1083, which reduces magnetic interference on digital cordless phones for users with hearing aids.
- The government must adopt pro-competitive policies that encourage marketplace solutions and rapid deployment of accessible technologies.