



May 12, 2014

The Honorable Penny Pritzker
Secretary of Commerce
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Madam Secretary:

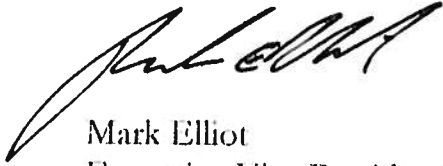
Intellectual property (IP) rights are critical to fostering innovation and stimulating economic growth both in the U.S. and abroad. One key way to expedite the innovative process and bring new technologies to market is through the creation of a Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) with foreign governments. As we look to further the bilateral cooperation on IP with Brazil, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the U.S. Section of the Brazil-U.S. Business Council urge the U.S. government and the Brazilian government to sign an agreement implementing a PPH.

Since the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) established the PPH program in 2006, patent prosecution highways have enabled participating patent offices to share information during the patent examination process in order to reduce work duplication. Both the U.S. and Brazilian governments and innovative companies in both nations would benefit from a PPH. Information-sharing during the examination process would not only accelerate the approval process but also help reduce the patent backlog in the U.S. and Brazil. Reducing the turnaround time during the examination process would allow companies to more rapidly bring their products to market, which could stimulate economic growth and job creation in both Brazil and the United States.

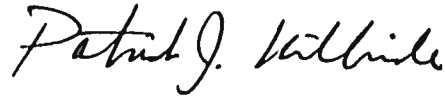
The Brazil Section of the Brazil-U.S. Business Council (CEBEU) of the National Confederation of Industry (CNI) and the Brazil Section of the U.S.-Brazil CEO Forum recently sent a letter (enclosed) to Minister Mercadante of the Executive Office of the President supporting the creation of a PPH between the U.S. and Brazil. The U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the U.S. Section of the Brazil-U.S. Business

Council believe that a PPH would further bilateral intellectual property collaboration, and we respectively request the Department of Commerce pursue a PPH with Brazil.

Sincerely,



Mark Elliot
Executive Vice President
Global Intellectual Property Center
U.S. Chamber of Commerce



Patrick Kilbride
Executive Director
Brazil-U.S. Business Council

cc: Deputy Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Deputy Director of the USPTO Michelle Lee