

Trade Facts

Office of the United States Trade Representative November 3, 2005

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America's High Tech Sector Applauds Multi-Chip Integrated Circuits (MCP) Agreement as Vital to Growth of Industry

What They Are Saying:

"I applaud USTR for securing the MCP tariff agreement. By eliminating tariffs on multi-chip packages, USTR is working with American companies to ensure that tariff treatment keeps up with the rapid technological innovation that characterizes the semiconductor industry. This agreement is valuable in laying the foundation for the upcoming World Trade Organization talks in Hong Kong, where I hope all governments will recognize the value in keeping these products tariff free."

-Steven R. Appleton, Chairman, CEO & President, Micron Technology Incorporated

"The multi-chip package tariff agreement is an important step towards eliminating barriers to free trade in information technology products. Reduced tariffs on products have a direct benefit to consumers and businesses around the world. Intel congratulates Ambassador Portman and his negotiators on this achievement."

-Craig R. Barrett, Chairman of the Board, Intel Corporation

"The semiconductor industry is a global industry that assists in bringing enhanced information access to the world. Free and open trade and competition are vital to make information technology available to all consumers. We congratulate Ambassador Portman and his staff on the MCP agreement, which helps maintain open markets for semiconductor products."

-Hector Ruiz, Chairman, President & CEO, Advanced Micro Devices, Incorporated

"The agreement to eliminate tariffs on multi-chip packages is another great victory for USTR. The MCP agreement eliminates a barrier that could have hindered growth in this fast growing product sector. I applaud Ambassador Portman and his negotiators for their perseverance in securing this agreement."

-Rich Templeton, President and Chief Executive Officer, Texas Instruments

"This is a major step forward in our effort to eliminate tariffs on multi-chip packages and lower costs of semiconductor technology for consumers around the world. Ambassador Rob Portman and his team at USTR deserve our appreciation and applause for their persistence in pursuing this agreement. MCPs are a new, fast growing product – cutting tariffs to zero on this product is vital to ensure continued growth."

-George Scalise, President, Semiconductor Industry Association

"This agreement is a major advancement in liberalizing trade in MCPs, which have become the preferred type of semiconductor in the wireless communications sector...United States Trade Representative Robert Portman and his team at the Office of the USTR are to be congratulated for achieving an agreement that removes tariff barriers on this fast-growing segment of the global semiconductor market."

-Steve Altman, President, QUALCOMM