

**News Release****October 12, 2011****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****Contact: Stephanie Henry  
202.659.5147****ECAT APPLAUDS CONGRESSIONAL PASSAGE OF TRADE AGREEMENTS WITH COLOMBIA,  
KOREA AND PANAMA TO BOLSTER AMERICAN COMPETITIVENESS***ECAT Also Welcomes Passage of TAA and GSP*

**Washington, D.C., October 12, 2011:** Harold McGraw III, Chairman, President and CEO of The McGraw-Hill Companies and Chairman of the Emergency Committee for American Trade (ECAT), issued the statement below following Congressional passage of the trade agreements with Colombia, Korea and Panama and legislation to extend Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) and the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP):

“The Emergency Committee for American Trade (ECAT) applauds Congress’ strong and bipartisan passage today of the trade agreements with Colombia, Korea and Panama. These high-standard, comprehensive agreements will sustain and help expand U.S. economic opportunities in each market, and bolster our relationships with these important partners and allies, benefitting U.S. firms, workers and the broader interests of the United States for decades to come.

“These agreements will eliminate tariff and non-tariff barriers and help put into place strong transparency, anti-discrimination, and property-protection provisions to enable U.S. producers to increase sales of goods and services to customers in Colombia, Korea and Panama, protecting and expanding job opportunities in the United States.

“ECAT also welcomes the extension of the TAA and GSP programs. GSP promotes economic development and the rule of law, while improving U.S. economic opportunities and competitiveness in the international economy. While U.S. engagement in international trade and investment has produced enormous benefits for the United States, its businesses, its workers and its consumers, TAA provides important assistance to those who are adversely impacted.

“ECAT urges the President and Congress to remain committed to advancing other important trade and investment initiatives that will open markets and promote U.S. success in the international economy. In particular, ECAT urges the Administration to secure the broad outlines of a high-standard and comprehensive Trans-Pacific Partnership agreement by the November APEC Leaders’ meeting and to reengage in bilateral investment-treaty negotiations with key countries, including the currently stalled negotiations with India and China.”

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*Founded in 1967, ECAT is an organization of the heads of leading U.S. international business enterprises representing all major sectors of the American economy. Their annual worldwide sales exceed \$2.7 trillion and they employ more than 6.2 million persons. ECAT’s purpose is to promote economic growth through the expansion of international trade and investment.*