

News Release**September 30, 2011****For Immediate Release****Contact: Stephanie Henry
202-659-5147****ECAT WELCOMES RATIFICATION OF ANTI-COUNTERFEITING
TRADE AGREEMENT (ACTA)*****ACTA Establishes Important Legal Framework to Protect Against Intellectual-Property Infringement
and Uphold Strong Enforcement Standards***

Washington, D.C: Calman Cohen, President of the Emergency Committee for American Trade (ECAT), issued the following statement following the ratification of the Anti-Counterfeiting Trade Agreement, negotiated by Australia, Canada, the European Union and its Member States, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Mexico, Morocco, New Zealand, Singapore, Switzerland, and the United States:

“ECAT applauds the signing of the Anti-Counterfeiting Trade Agreement, which creates a strong framework to combat intellectual property-rights violations and strengthen international coordination of IPR enforcement efforts. This important agreement puts in place new legal provisions to protect against IPR infringement, optical disc piracy, and unauthorized Internet distribution of copyrighted material, while upholding standards of transparency and cooperation among parties’ law-enforcement agencies.

Intellectual property is vitally important to the United States’ economy and its industries, as it continues to spur economic growth and jobs creation through innovation, creativity, and technological advancement. Given the importance of intellectual property to the U.S. economy, ECAT strongly supports the parties’ ratification of ACTA and looks forward to the full implementation of these standards by each of the negotiating parties.”

ACTA is a plurilateral agreement initiated by the United States and Japan in June 2008. The agreement was negotiated by them and Australia, Canada, the European Union and its Member States, the Republic of Korea, Mexico, Morocco, New Zealand, Singapore, and Switzerland. The agreement was formally completed in April 2011 and signed by eight member parties in Japan on October 1st. The EU, Mexico, and Switzerland have yet to formally sign.

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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.