September 22, 2011

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS:

The undersigned businesses, trade associations, and professional and labor organizations, representing a broad cross-section of the American economy, write in support of rogue sites legislation. We commend the Senate for their early attention to this important issue and look forward to the introduction of a bill in the House.

We urge Congress to enact legislation which targets those who abuse the Internet ecosystem and reap illegal profits by stealing the intellectual property (IP) of America's innovative and creative industries. These rogue sites—those websites dedicated to counterfeiting and piracy—put American jobs, consumers, and innovation at risk.

Using the veil of sophisticated and well-designed websites, many of these online IP thieves pose as legitimate businesses, luring consumers to purchase fraudulent products. Some of these rogue sites even sell dangerously defective goods that needlessly jeopardize the health and safety of American consumers who are deceived into purchasing consumer goods that are poorly constructed or even contaminated with dangerous toxins. Consumers also unwittingly put themselves at risk of identity theft and malicious computer viruses by visiting these sites.

IP-intensive industries are a cornerstone of the U.S. economy, employing more than 19 million people and accounting for 60 percent of exports. Rampant online counterfeiting and piracy presents a clear and present threat to American jobs and innovation. A study examined approximately 100 rogue sites and found that these sites attracted more than 53 billion visits per year, which average out to approximately nine visits for every man, woman, and child on Earth. Global sales of counterfeit goods via the Internet from illegitimate retailers reached \$135 billion in 2010. The theft of American IP is the theft of American jobs.

The United States cannot and should not tolerate this criminal activity. Not only are jobs and consumers at risk, but rogue sites contribute absolutely no value to the U.S. marketplace. The operators of rogue sites break laws, do not pay taxes, and skirt accountability. In light of these concerns, we urge you to enact carefully balanced rogue sites legislation this year. We commend both the House and the Senate for their attention to this important issue and look forward to working with you in support of that goal.

Sincerely,

1-800 Contacts, Inc.
1-800-PetMeds
2b1 Inc
3M Company
ABRO Industries, Inc.
Acushnet Company
adidas America
Advanced Medical Technology Association (AdvaMed)
Allen Russell Photography

Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers

Alliance of Visual Artists (AVA)

Altria Client Services

American Apparel and Footwear Association

American Association of Independent Music (A2IM)

American Board of Internal Medicine

American Federation of Musicians

American Gramaphone LLC

American Made Alliance

American Mental Health Counselors Association

American Photographic Artists

American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP)

American Society of Media Photographers

American Society of Picture Professionals

American Watch Association

Anatoly Pronin Photography

Andrea Rugg Photography

Anti-Counterfeiting and Piracy Initiative (ACAPI)

Applied DNA Sciences

Art Holeman Photography

Association of American Publishers (AAP)

Association of Equipment Manufacturers

Association of Independent Music Publishers (AIMP)

Association of Test Publishers

AstraZeneca plc

Australian Medical Council

Autodesk, Inc.

Automotive Aftermarket Industry Association

Baker & Taylor Ent.

Bay State Psychological Associates

Beachbody, LLC

Beam Global Spirits & Wine

Blue Sky Studios, Inc.

Bose Corporation

Braasch Biotech LLC

Brian Stevenson Photography

Brigid Collins Family Support Center

Broadcast Music, Inc. (BMI)

Burberry

C. F. Martin & Co., Inc.

Callaway Golf Company

Cascade Designs Incorporated

Caterpillar Inc.

Caveon, LLC

CBS Corporation

Cengage Learning

Center for Credentialing & Education

Center Stage Photography

CFA Institute

Chanel USA

Christopher Semmes Photography

Church Music Publishers Association

CMH Images

Coach

Coalition Against Counterfeiting and Piracy (CACP)

Columbia Sportswear Company

Comcast Corporation

Commercial Photo Design

Commercial Photographers International

Comprehensive Adult Student Assessment System

Consumer Healthcare Products Association

Copyright Alliance

Copyright Clearance Center (CCC)

Coty Inc.

Council of Fashion Designers of America

Country Music Association

CropLife America

Cross-Entertainment LLC

CSA Group

CVS Caremark

D'Addario & Company, Inc.

Dan Sherwood Photography

Danita Delimont Stock Photography

Dayco Products, LLC

Deluxe Entertainment Services Group

Dennyfoto

Derek DiLuzio Photography

DeVaul Photography

Direct Selling Association (DSA)

Directional Insight

Distefano Enterprises Inc.

Doriguzzi Photographic Artistry

Dolby Laboratories, Inc.

Dolce & Gabbana USA, INC.

Dollar General Corporation

Don Grall Photography

Dunford Architectural Photography

Eagle Rock Entertainment

Ed McDonald Photography

Educational & Industrial Testing Service

Electronic Arts, Inc.

Electronic Components Industry Association (ECIA)

Eli Lilly and Company

Englebert Photography

Entertainment Software Association (ESA)

ERAI, Inc.

Eric Meola Studio Inc

Evidence Photographers International Council

Ex Officio

Exxel Outdoors

FAME Publishing Co., LLC.

FAME Recording Studios

Far Bank Enterprises

Fashion Business Incorporated

Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy

Fender Musical Instrument Company

Footwear Distributors & Retailers of America (FDRA)

Ford Motor Company

Fortune Brands, Inc.

Fred J. Lord Photography

GAR Associates

Gelderland Productions, L.L.C.

Gemvision Corporation

Gibson Guitar Corp.

GlaxoSmithKline

Gospel Music Association

Governors America Corp.

Graduate Management Admission Council

Graphic Artists Guild

Greeting Card Association (GCA)

Greg Nikas Photography

Guru Denim

H.S. Marketing & Design, Inc.

Harley-Davidson Motor Company

HarperCollins Publishers

Harry Fox Agency

Hastings Entertainment, Inc.

ICM Distributing Company, Inc.

IDS Publishing

IEC Electronics corp.

Images Plus

Imaging Supplies Coalition (ISC)

Independent Distributors of Electronics Association (IDEA)

INgrooves

Innate-gear

International AntiCounterfeiting Coalition (IACC)

International Trademark Association (INTA)

IPC-Association Connecting Electronics Industries

Ira Montgomery Photography

J.S. Grove Photography

James Drug Inc.

Jaynes Gallery

JCPage Photography

Jean Poland Photography

Jeff Stevensen Photography

John Fulton Photography

John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

Johnson & Johnson

Juicy Couture, Inc

Julien McRoberts Photography

K&R Photographics

kate spade

Kekepana International Services

Kenneth Garrett, photographer for National Geographic

Killing Jar Productions LLC

Lacoste USA

Leatherman Tool Group, Inc.

Lexmark International, Inc.

Light Perspectives

Linda Olsen Photography

Little Dog Records

Liz Claiborne, Inc

L'Oréal USA

Lucky Brand Jeans

LVMH Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton

Macmillan

Major League Baseball

Marcia Andberg Associates LLC

Mark Niederman Photography

Marmot

Marona Photography

McLain Photography Inc

Merck & Co., Inc.

Messy Face Designs, Inc.

Michael Stern Photography

MicroRam Electronics, Inc.

Minter Works of Art

Mira Images

Monster Cable Products, Inc.

Moose's Photos

Morningstar Films LLC

Motion Picture Association of America, Inc. (MPAA)

MotionMasters

Motor & Equipment Manufacturers Association

MPA - The Association of Magazine Media

Mr. Theodor Feibel (sole proprietor)

Music Managers Forum-U.S.

Nashville Songwriters Association International

Natalie Neckyfarow Actor/Dancer/Singer

National Association of Broadcasters

National Association of Manufacturers

National Association of Recording Merchandisers (NARM)

National Association of Theatre Owners (NATO)

National Basketball Association (NBA)

National Board for Certified Counselors

National Board for Certified Counselors Foundation

National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA)

National Football League (NFL)

National Music Publishers' Association (NMPA)

National Retail Federation (NRF)

NBCUniversal

Nervous Tattoo Inc., dba Ed Hardy

New Balance Athletic Shoe, Inc.

New Era Cap Co Inc

New Levels Ent. Co. LLC

News Corporation

Next Decade Entertainment, Inc.

NHL Enterprises, L.P.

Nicholas Petrucci, Artist, LLC

Nike, Inc.

Nintendo of America Inc.

Nissle Fine Art Photography

North Dakota Pharmacists Association

North Dakota Pharmacy Service Corporation

Oakley, Inc.

One Voice Recordings

OpSec Security, Inc.

Outdoor Industry Association

Outdoor Power Equipment Institute (OPEI)

Outdoor Research, Inc

Pacific Component Xchange, Inc.

Party Killer Films LLC

Pearson Clinical Assessment

Peavey Electronics Corporation

Perry Ellis International

Personal Care Products Council

Peter C. Brandt, Architectural and Fine Art Photography

Peter Hawkins Photography, Inc.

Petzl America

Pfizer Inc.

PGA of America

Philip Morris International

Photojournalist Dave Bartruff

Picture Archive Council of America (PACA)

Pigfactory Music

PING

PNW Images

Premier League

Production Music Association (PMA)

Professional Photographers of America

Quality Float Works, Inc.

Raging Waters Music

Ralph Lauren Corporation

Ramsay Corporation

Rebel Photo

Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA)

Red4 Music/Doogs Rock Inc

Red Wing Shoe Company

Reebok International Ltd.

Reed Elsevier Inc.

Retail Industry Leaders Association (RILA)

Revlon

Richard Flutie Photography

Rite Aid

Robin Davis Photography, Inc.

Rodger Scott Craig, a member of Liverpool Express, The Merseybeats, Fortune, Harlan

Cage, 101 South, and Mtunz Media

Roger Smith Photography Services

Rolex Watch USA Inc.

Romance Writers of America (RWA)

Rosetta Stone Inc.

Saddle Creek

Sage Studios LLC

Sam D'Amico Photography

Schneider Electric

Sean McGinty Photography

Secret Sea Visions (Photography)

SESAC, Inc.

SG Industries, Inc.

Shure Incorporated

SIGMA Assessment Systems

Six Degrees Records

Small Business & Entrepreneurship Council

SMC Entertainment

SMT Corp.

SoBe Entertainment

Society of Sport & Event Photographers

Software & Information Industry Association (SIIA)

Sony Electronics Inc.

Sony Music Entertainment

Sony Pictures Entertainment

Soul Appeal Records and Music

SoundExchange

Southern Gothic LLC

Specialty Equipment Market Association (SEMA)

SPI (The Plastics Industry Trade Association)

Sporting Goods Manufacturers Association

Sports Rights Owners Coalition

Spring Fever Productions LLC

Spyder Active Sports, Inc

Stenbakken Photography

Stephen Dantzig Photography

Stock Artist Alliance

Stuart Weitzman Holdings, LLC

Student Photographic Society

Studio 404

SunRise Solar Inc.

Taylor Glenn Photographs

Taylor Guitars

Taylor Made Golf Company, Inc.

Tednologies, Inc.

The Cambridge Don

The Collegiate Licensing Company/IMG College

The Donath Group, Inc.

The Dow Chemical Company

The Estee Lauder Companies

The McGraw-Hill Companies

The Music People! Inc.

The National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA)

The Recording Academy (National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences)

The Timberland Company

The Walt Disney Company

Tiffany & Co.

Time Warner Inc.

Tony Bullard Photography

Toshiba America Business Solutions, Inc.

TRA Global

Tricoast Worldwide

Trio Productions, Inc. / Songscape Music,

Twist & Shout, Inc.

U.S. Chamber of Commerce

Ultimate Fighting Championship

Underwriters Laboratories Inc.

Universal Music Group

Uniweld Products Inc.

VF Corporation

Viacom

Vibram USA, Inc

Virtual Chip Exchange USA, Inc.

Voltage Pictures, LLC

W.R. Case & Sons Cutlery Co.

Walcott Studio, LLC

Wal-Mart

Warner Music Group

Wendy Kaveney Photography

Western Psychological Services

Westmorland Images, LLC

Wild & Associates, Inc.

Wild Eye Photos LLC

William Sutton Photography

Willis Music

WindLegends Ink LLC

Winestem Company

Winslow Research Institute

Wolfe Video

Wolverine World Wide, Inc.

Woolrich, Inc.

World Wrestling Entertainment, Inc.

Xerox Corporation

Zippo Manufacturing Company

Zumba Fitness, LLC