belkin

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June 18, 2012

The Honorable Max Baucus, Chairman
Senate Committee on Finance
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Dave Camp, Chairman
House Committee on Ways & Means
1102 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Orrin G. Hatch
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Finance
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Sander M. Levin
Ranking Member
House Committee on Ways & Means
1236 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Comments requested on Miscellaneous Tariff legislation S. 2583/ H.R. 5784

Dear Chairmen Baucus and Camp, and Ranking Members Hatch and Levin:

On behalf of Belkin International, Inc., I would like to express our support for S. 2583/ H.R. 5784, a bill to suspend temporarily the duty on certain textile device covers and stands, introduced by Senator Feinstein and Representative Waters as part of the Miscellaneous Tariff Bill (MTB) process. This bill will help reduce the import duty on certain textile device covers and stands not manufactured in the United States.

Belkin has been in California since 1983. Originally founded in a garage in Hawthorne, Belkin has grown to become a recognized global leader in connectivity solutions. Our diverse and far-reaching product mix includes award-winning innovations for easy-to-use networking solutions, accessories for mobile devices, such as iPod®, iPhone™, laptops, and netbooks, as well as energy conservation products. From our original workforce of two people, we've grown to be a billion-dollar business, with over 1,000 employees throughout the globe. We've been listed in the "Inner City Top 100" list for six consecutive years and the Los Angeles Business Journal's "Fastest Growing Private Companies" list for five years. Earlier this year, the Association for Corporate Growth presented its "Best Corporate Responsibility" award to Belkin.

One of the ways we can continue to grow and create jobs in the United States, is by finding new cost-saving measures, such as reductions on the import duties that we have to pay on products that are not available in the United States. The savings from S. 2583/ H.R. 5784 will help us continue to make investments in our California facilities, and in our over 500 employees in California and about 250 more in Indianapolis.

We look forward to seeing these bills reviewed positively during the interagency review and urge Congress for swift passage in Congress before the end of the year.

Sincerely,

Chester J. Pipkin
Chief Executive Officer