

“Because with over a billion dollars in trade crossing the border every single day, smarter border management is key to our competitiveness, our job creation, and my goal of doubling U.S. export”.
- President Barack Obama, the White House, February 4, 2011 announcing the Shared Vision for Perimeter Security and Economic Competitiveness with Prime Minister Stephen Harper

July 19, 2011

Mr. Daniel A. Restrepo
Senior Assistant to the President
Senior Director for Western Hemisphere Affairs
National Security Council,
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Restrepo,

We are writing to express our appreciation for your leadership on the **Beyond the Border Working Group** initiative launched last February by President Barack Obama and Prime Minister Stephen Harper.

In particular, we write in support of the six key industry recommendations by the Businesses for Better Borders (B3) coalition as outlined below:

- Create a harmonized system of border operations that separates traffic and reporting requirements based on levels of investment and risk;
- Harmonize and expand trusted trader programs, like Canada’s Customs Self Assessment (CSA) program, that demonstrate a clear return on investment for both government and industry;
- Align regulations and regulatory reporting processes, including government-wide single window reporting, across government agencies and departments;
- Implement coordinated U.S.-Canada perimeter border security and processing requirements;
- Expand and improve the existing trade infrastructure; and
- Reduce barriers to the movement of business personnel.

We believe that these proposals are critical to meeting the objectives established by the President and Prime Minister to enhance the global competitiveness of our integrated industries, grow exports, and support business investment and job creation.

Sincerely,

1. National Association of Manufacturers
2. American Automotive Policy Council
3. Water and Wastewater Equipment Manufacturers Association
4. Public Border Operators Association
5. Association of Global Automakers, Inc.
6. Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers
7. National Foreign Trade Council
8. Emergency Committee for American Trade
9. Uni-Bell PVC Pipe Association
10. Aerospace Industries Association
11. Motor & Equipment Manufacturers Association

12. Canadian American Business Council
13. Grocery Manufacturers Association
14. Joint Industry Group
15. U.S. Business Alliance for Customs Modernization
16. IPC – Association Connecting Electronics Industries
17. North American Plastics Alliance
18. Retail Industry Leaders Association
19. American Composites Manufacturers Association
20. InfoComm International
21. Association of Equipment Manufacturers
22. Window and Door Manufacturers Association
23. National Marine Manufacturers Association