December 3, 2012

The Honorable Harry Reid
Senate Majority Leader
S-221, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Senate Minority Leader
S-230, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable John Boehner
Speaker of the House
H-232, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
House Minority Leader
H-204, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Majority Leader Reid, Speaker Boehner, Minority Leader McConnell, and Minority Leader Pelosi:

We are writing to underscore that passage of the Miscellaneous Tariff Bill (MTB) is a top priority for manufacturers throughout the United States, and to ask that you work together to ensure passage of this important legislation by the end of this year.

The MTB is a package of tax cuts that would boost the competitiveness of manufacturers throughout the United States by reducing the cost of production through eliminating import duties on inputs that are not produced or available domestically. Existing duty suspensions on over 600 products are set to expire at the end of 2012 and without Congressional action, costs will go up on those important manufacturing inputs. In addition, hundreds of new provisions have been requested. In total, nearly 2,100 bills have been introduced in the House and Senate, demonstrating the wide range of manufactured products that might benefit from passage of the MTB. A MTB which both extends expiring provisions and includes new suspensions is vital to level the playing field for manufacturers in the United States and improve our global competitiveness.

For three decades, Congress has recognized the importance of suspending import taxes on essential manufacturing inputs that are not produced or available domestically. Failure to pass the MTB will add to the 20 percent cost differential that U.S. manufacturers already face, resulting in further losses of important manufacturing opportunities and jobs.

The MTB is one of the most important short-term actions Congress can take to preserve and expand good American jobs, boost America's manufacturing competitiveness, and increase our manufacturing exports. Our economy cannot afford the prospect of yet another tax increase on manufacturing. We strongly urge you to work in a bipartisan and bicameral manner to ensure passage of the MTB by December 31, 2012.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

3M
3V, Inc.
Aerospace Industries Association
American Apparel & Footwear Association (AAFA)
American Association of Exporters and Importers
American Automotive Policy Council (AAPC)

American Chemistry Council
American Institute for International Steel
American Manufacturing Trade Action Coalition (AMTAC)
Amsyn, Inc.
Armstrong World Industries, Inc.
Association of Food Industries
Association of Global Automakers
ATEX, Inc.
BASF Corporation
Bayer Corporation
Bayer CropScience
Belkin
Boehringer Ingelheim
Caterpillar
Celestaire, Inc.
Cellular Technologies
Charkit Chemical Company
Coats North America
Consumer Electronics Association
Corning Incorporated
CropLife America
Deere & Co.
Dolphin, Inc.
Dow AgroSciences
Dow Chemical Company
DuPont
Eastman Chemical Company
Emergency Committee for American Trade (ECAT)
ESCO Corporation
EXXEL OUTDOORS
Fanwood Chemical, Inc.
Fashion Accessories Shippers Association (FASA)
Firmenich, Inc.
FMC Corporation
General Motors Co.
Glen Raven, Inc.
Hampford Research, Inc.
Hekman Furniture
Hitachi Automotive Systems America, Inc.
Honeywell International, Inc.
Howard Miller Company
ICF Mercantile LLC
INDA - Association of the Nonwoven Fabrics Industry
Jacob Holm Industries
Karsten Manufacturing Corporation
Lanxess
Lasko Products, Inc.
LeapFrog
Leviton
LORD Corporation

Manufacturing Tariff Bill Coalition
Miami Valley Marketing Group, Inc.
Milliken and Co.
Multifibres and Yarns (USA), Inc.
Nation Ford Chemical
National Association of Manufacturers
National Council of Textile Organizations
National District Export Council
National Electrical Manufacturers Association
National Retail Federation
National Spinning Company
Nautilus
Nichino America, Inc.
Novamont North America, Inc.
NOW Foods
Nufarm Americas, Inc.
Ohio Alliance for International Trade
Outdoor Industry Association (OIA)
Pfizer
PING
PPG
PRESTIGE APPAREL
Quality Time Components
Ridgeway Clocks
Robert Branand International
Rubbermaid Commercial Products
San Diego & Imperial District Export Council
SGL Group, the Carbon Company
Society of Chemical Manufacturers and Affiliates (SOCMA)
Solvay Chemicals
Sony Electronics
Southern Ohio District Export Council
Special Materials Company
SPI: The Plastics Industry Trade Association
Sun Chemical Corporation
Symrise, Inc.
Syngenta Corporation
Tietex International, Ltd.
Tosoh USA
Toy Industry Association
Travel Goods Association (TGA)
U.S. Chamber of Commerce
U.S. Council for International Business
UPS
USEC
Whirlpool Corporation
Woodmark Furniture
Xerox
Zamoyski and Company
Zeon Chemicals

CC: The Honorable Max Baucus, Chairman, Senate Committee on Finance
The Honorable Dave Camp, Chairman, House Committee on Ways and Means
The Honorable Orrin Hatch, Ranking Member, Senate Committee on Finance
The Honorable Sander Levin, Ranking Member, House Committee on Ways and Means