



October 15, 2001

The Honorable George W. Bush  
President of the United States  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Our sadness and anger over the events of September 11 have taken shape as a collective determination to act. The stark reality is that business as usual is no longer enough.

The member companies of the Business Software Alliance (BSA) are the leading research-based American software and computer developers and manufacturers. Over the past decades, our engineers and scientists have made substantial contributions not only to America's economic welfare, but also to our national and individual security. Today, our nation confronts new challenges. Addressing them will require the best that each of us has to give. We are ready to do our part.

While we face many tasks in this new era, one key objective must be to make the daily workings of our nation more secure. Countless everyday operations - from the unimpeded functioning of financial markets to the steady delivery of water and electricity to our homes - require secure information networks. For normalcy to resume, our technological infrastructure must be protected, our governmental infrastructure must be secured, our work force must be trained and equipped, and systems that allow for privacy and security management, as well as identification, authentication, and validation, must be implemented.

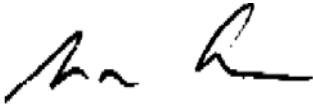
We commend you for actions you are taking to help improve America's emergency response technologies, including your appointment of Governor Tom Ridge to serve as Director of the Office of Homeland Security and Mr. Richard A. Clarke to serve as your Special Adviser for Cyberspace Security. We look forward to working closely with both Director Ridge and Mr. Clarke as they tackle their critical mission.

We know that numerous governmental advisory bodies, such as the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology and the National Security Telecommunications Advisory Committee, will redouble their efforts to identify and address areas of technological vulnerability in our daily lives. Many of our companies are already involved in these day-to-day efforts, while others stand ready to complement this work and to help fill in any gaps that may exist. All of us commit ourselves to advancing

appropriate initiatives, devoting resources to identify and create new technologies, and ensuring that solutions are quickly deployed at critical points.

The commitment of each and every American is required at this critical moment. We are ready to do what is needed. We urge you to call on us, and we will do all that we can to help.

Sincerely,



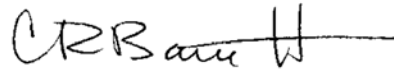
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Adobe Systems, Inc.



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Chairman of the Board and CEO  
Dell



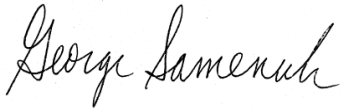
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Chairman, CEO and President  
Sybase, Inc.



John W. Thompson  
Chairman, President and CEO  
Symantec Corporation

Cc:

The Honorable Tom Ridge  
The Honorable Richard A. Clarke

The Honorable Thomas Daschle  
The Honorable Trent Lott

The Honorable Denny Hastert  
The Honorable Richard Gephardt