

The Hon. Rhonda K. Schmidlein, Chairman  
The Hon. David S. Johanson, Vice Chairman  
United States International Trade Commission  
500 E Street, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20436

Re: **Sprint Corporation's Statement on the Public Interest**  
*Certain Semiconductor Devices, Semiconductor Device Packages, and Products*  
*Containing the Same, Inv. No. 337-TA-1010*

Dear Chairman Schmidlein, Vice Chairman Johanson, and Commissioners:

On behalf of Sprint Spectrum LP, I respectfully submit these comments in response to the Commission's Notice of Request for Statements on the Public Interest in the matter of *Certain Semiconductor Devices, Semiconductor Device Packages, and Products Containing the Same*, Inv. No. 337-TA-101, dated July 10, 2017.

Sprint is a leading telecommunications service provider and mobile network operator. Sprint has roughly 28,000 employees and has over 4,700 stores in the United States. With approximately \$54 million customers as of March 2017, Sprint is currently the fourth-largest mobile network operator in the United States, behind Verizon, AT&T, and T-Mobile.<sup>1</sup>

Sprint is deeply concerned about the potential impact of an exclusion order on its business and its customers and on competition among mobile network operators generally. HTC (one of the respondents in this Investigation) has partnered with Sprint to provide its cutting-edge Android-based "Bolt" smartphone exclusively to Sprint customers. Sprint's strategic partnership with HTC to provide exclusive access to the Bolt smartphone helps distinguish Sprint from other mobile network operators and remain competitive.<sup>2</sup> Moreover, this partnership is about more than just providing an exclusive flagship phone: the HTC Bolt is specifically designed to take full advantage of Sprint's LTE Plus network, which further sets Sprint apart from its competitors.

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<sup>1</sup> Sprint's overall network reliability is on par with both Verizon and AT&T and outperforms T-Mobile based on an analysis of Nielsen data from the top 106 metropolitan markets.

<sup>2</sup> See, e.g., <https://www.engadget.com/2016/11/11/htcs-high-end-bolt-is-a-fast-fascinating-sprint-exclusive/>.

containing accused semiconductor chips. An expansive remedial order such as the one the ALJ has recommended here poses significant repercussions to Sprint. If the Commission adopts the ALJ's recommended remedy, Sprint is concerned that it will not be able to offer the Bolt smartphone to its customers. The loss of this exclusive product could cost Sprint current and prospective customers by, among other things, compromising Sprint's ability to showcase and market its LTE Plus network.

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While Sprint expresses no opinion on the merits of the Investigation, we are deeply concerned about the impact a remedial order may have on our competitive standing and on our customers who would have fewer options when choosing a smartphone, particularly leading edge devices such as the Bolt. If the Commission determines a remedy of some kind is appropriate, we urge you to consider tailoring any remedial order to avoid disruption to Sprint's ability to offer the Bolt (among other HTC smartphone products) to its customers, such as by delaying by six or more months the imposition of any remedy to allow HTC to qualify non-accused chips for its products.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ryan Sullivan', with a stylized, cursive flourish at the end.

Ryan Sullivan  
Vice President, Device Development & Engineering

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Pamela A. Freitik, hereby certify that the attached document has been served upon the following parties as indicated below on August 7, 2017.

<p>The Honorable Lisa R. Barton Secretary to the Commission U.S. International Trade Commission 500 E Street SW, Room 112-A Washington, D.C. 20436</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Via EDIS <input type="checkbox"/> Via First Class Mail <input type="checkbox"/> Via Express Delivery <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Via Hand Delivery</p>
<p>Sidney A. Rosenzweig Office of the General Counsel U.S. International Trade Commission 500 E Street SW Washington, D.C. 20436</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Via EDIS <input type="checkbox"/> Via First Class Mail <input type="checkbox"/> Via Express Delivery <input type="checkbox"/> Via Hand Delivery <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Via Electronic Mail at <a href="mailto:sidney.rosenzweig@usitc.gov">sidney.rosenzweig@usitc.gov</a></p>
<p>The Honorable Dee Lord Administrative Law Judge U.S. International Trade Commission 500 E. Street SW, Room 317 Washington, D.C. 20436</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Via First Class Mail <input type="checkbox"/> Via Express Delivery <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Via Hand Delivery <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Via Electronic Mail at <a href="mailto:edward.jou@usitc.gov">edward.jou@usitc.gov</a></p>
<p>Sturgis M. Sobin Shara Aranoff Daniel E. Valencia COVINGTON &amp; BURLING LLP One CityCenter, 850 Tenth Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20001</p> <p>Michael K. Plimack Dale A. Rice Nitin Subhedar COVINGTON &amp; BURLING LLP One Front Street San Francisco, CA 94111</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Via EDIS <input type="checkbox"/> Via First Class Mail <input type="checkbox"/> Via Express Delivery <input type="checkbox"/> Via Hand Delivery <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Via Electronic Mail at <a href="mailto:Tessera-Broadcom@cov.com">Tessera-Broadcom@cov.com</a></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Via EDIS <input type="checkbox"/> Via First Class Mail <input type="checkbox"/> Via Express Delivery <input type="checkbox"/> Via Hand Delivery <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Via Electronic Mail at <a href="mailto:Tessera-Broadcom@cov.com">Tessera-Broadcom@cov.com</a></p>

<p>Robert T. Haslam Anupam Sharma Thomas E. Garten COVINGTON &amp; BURLING LLP 333 Twin Dolphin Drive Redwood Shores, CA 94065-1418</p> <p><i>Counsel for Complainants Tessera Technologies, Inc., Tessera, Inc. and Invensas Corporation</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Via EDIS <input type="checkbox"/> Via First Class Mail <input type="checkbox"/> Via Express Delivery <input type="checkbox"/> Via Hand Delivery <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Via Electronic Mail at <a href="mailto:Tessera-Broadcom@cov.com">Tessera-Broadcom@cov.com</a></p>
<p>KILPATRICK TOWNSEND &amp; STOCKTON LLP David E. Sipiora Kristopher L. Reed Matthew C. Holohan Brian P. O'Donnell 1400 Wewatta Street, Suite 600 Denver, CO 80202</p> <p>Joshua B. Pond 607 14th Street, NW, Suite 900 Washington, D.C. 20005-2018</p> <p>Norris P. Boothe Matthew J. Meyer William E. Mosley 1080 Marsh Road Menlo Park, CA 94025</p> <p>FOSTER MURPHY ALTMAN &amp; NICKEL PC David F. Nickel Matthew N. Duescher 1899 L Street, N.W., Suite 1150 Washington, D.C. 20036</p> <p><i>Counsel for Respondents Broadcom Limited, Broadcom Corporation, Arista Networks, Inc. ARRIS International plc, ARRIS Group, Inc., ARRIS Technology, Inc., ARRIS Enterprises LLC, ARRIS</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Via EDIS <input type="checkbox"/> Via First Class Mail <input type="checkbox"/> Via Express Delivery <input type="checkbox"/> Via Hand Delivery <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Via Electronic Mail at <a href="mailto:Broadcom-TesseraITC@kilpatricktownsend.com">Broadcom-TesseraITC@kilpatricktownsend.com</a></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Via EDIS <input type="checkbox"/> Via First Class Mail <input type="checkbox"/> Via Express Delivery <input type="checkbox"/> Via Hand Delivery <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Via Electronic Mail at <a href="mailto:Broadcom-TesseraITC@kilpatricktownsend.com">Broadcom-TesseraITC@kilpatricktownsend.com</a></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Via EDIS <input type="checkbox"/> Via First Class Mail <input type="checkbox"/> Via Express Delivery <input type="checkbox"/> Via Hand Delivery <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Via Electronic Mail at <a href="mailto:Broadcom-TesseraITC@kilpatricktownsend.com">Broadcom-TesseraITC@kilpatricktownsend.com</a></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Via EDIS <input type="checkbox"/> Via First Class Mail <input type="checkbox"/> Via Express Delivery <input type="checkbox"/> Via Hand Delivery <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Via Electronic Mail at <a href="mailto:FM-Broadcom-1010@fostermurphy.com">FM-Broadcom-1010@fostermurphy.com</a></p>

<p><i>Solutions, Inc. , Pace Ltd., Pace Americas, LLC, Pace USA, LLC, ASUSTeK Computer Inc., ASUS Computer International, Comcast Cable Communications, LLC, Comcast Cable Communications Management, LLC, Comcast Business Communications, LLC, Technicolor S.A., Technicolor USA, Inc., Technicolor Connected Home USA LLC, NETGEAR, Inc., HTC Corporation and HTC America, Inc.</i></p>	
<p>David A. Hickerson George C. Beck Foley &amp; Lardner LLP 3000 K Street, N.W., Suite 600 Washington, D.C. 20007-5109</p> <p>Steven J. Rizzi Ramy E. Hanna Foley &amp; Lardner LLP 90 Park Avenue New York, New York 10016-1314</p> <p><i>Counsel for Broadcom Limited and Broadcom Corporation</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Via EDIS <input type="checkbox"/> Via First Class Mail <input type="checkbox"/> Via Express Delivery <input type="checkbox"/> Via Hand Delivery <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Via Electronic Mail at <a href="mailto:Broadcom-Foley@Foley.com">Broadcom-Foley@Foley.com</a></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Via EDIS <input type="checkbox"/> Via First Class Mail <input type="checkbox"/> Via Express Delivery <input type="checkbox"/> Via Hand Delivery <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Via Electronic Mail at <a href="mailto:Broadcom-Foley@Foley.com">Broadcom-Foley@Foley.com</a></p>

*/s/ Pamela A. Freitik*

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Pamela A. Freitik