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October 11, 2007

***It's About Innovation***

**Fact of the Week**

**High Tech Companies and Engineers Join Forces to Urge Action on Highly Educated Immigration Reform**

***Did you know ...***

The Semiconductor Industry Association (SIA) and the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers-USA (IEEE-USA) have joined forces to urge Congress to act this year to reform the highly educated immigration system.

In their joint letter to key Senate and House leaders, they state:

- “Both IEEE-USA and SIA see the retention of highly educated immigrants as part of a broader competitiveness and innovation initiative ....”
- “The SIA and IEEE-USA agree that these highly-talented individuals should be able to get permanent resident status (green cards) in an expedited manner ....”
- “The U.S. should be encouraging highly skilled talent to enter and remain in the United States in order to improve America’s competitive position in the global economy. Other nations are working hard to attract this same talent to compete against U.S. companies.”

**High tech companies and engineers agree:**

**Congress must modernize the highly educated immigration system to meet our nation’s workforce demands in the 21st century.**

For a copy of the letter, click here.

To learn more about highly educated immigration, visit [www.competeamerica.org](http://www.competeamerica.org).

*Compete America (www.competeamerica.org) is a coalition of corporations, educators, research institutions and trade associations concerned about legal, employment-based immigration and committed to ensuring that the United States has the highly educated workforce necessary to ensure continued innovation, job creation and leadership in a worldwide economy.*