



For Immediate Release
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**THE U.S. COPYRIGHT INDUSTRIES APPLAUD THE SIGNING OF
THE U.S. - MOROCCO FREE TRADE AGREEMENT**

Washington, D.C. – The International Intellectual Property Alliance (IIPA), comprised of six U.S. copyright-based trade associations comprising over 1,300 companies, applauded today's signing of the U.S.-Morocco Free Trade Agreement.

Eric H. Smith, IIPA President, said, “Ambassador Zoellick and his negotiators deserve the highest praise for achieving strong standards of copyright protection. High standards of copyright protection – important for the development of Morocco's creative industries – will set important precedents that we hope will lead to adoption of similar standards in North Africa and the Arab world. It must also not be underestimated what high-level copyright protection in Morocco will mean to the U.S. economy, to jobs and to the future of global e-commerce. Morocco recognizes that its economy will increasingly depend on the creativity of its citizens, as supported by comprehensive copyright protections, as new markets develop to promote the digital transmission of copyright material globally. By securing high levels of obligations on copyright protection and enforcement, the United States has signaled that it seeks the widest dissemination of copyright-based enabling technologies and entertainment products around the world.” Smith added, “Effective implementation of these new standards, both on-the-books and in actual enforcement practices, is crucial.”

IIPA hopes that the Congress will take swift action and ratify the U.S.-Morocco Free Trade Agreement without delay.

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The International Intellectual Property Alliance (IIPA) is a private-sector coalition formed in 1984 to represent the U.S. copyright-based industries in bilateral and multilateral efforts to improve international protection of copyrighted materials. IIPA's six member associations represent over 1,300 U.S. companies producing and distributing materials protected by copyright laws throughout the world – all types of computer software including business applications software and entertainment software (such as videogame CDs and cartridges, personal computer CD-ROMs and multimedia products); theatrical films, television programs, home videos and digital representations of audiovisual works; music, records, CDs, and audiocassettes; and textbooks, tradebooks, reference and professional publications and journals (in both electronic and print media).