Subject: FW: EU-US Call for industry input on regulatory issues for possible future trade
                                             agreement

Dear Sir or Madam

I wish to give you some feedback on behalf of Euralarm - The Association of European manufacturers, installers and service providers representing the electronic Fire, Security and Services industry.   www.euralarm.org

Whilst our expertise is not in the area of import duties and cross Atlantic regulatory regimes, we have been active for some time in trying to establish one single European market, without barriers.
This will have significant interest not only to European companies (especially SMEs) but also to our US counterparts.

At present the security industry is fragmented in Europe through the enforcement of national security standards. This makes it very difficult, slow and expensive for SMEs and companies outside Europe, eg USA, to launch new products
into the European market. In effect these national security standards are a barrier to trade within the European market.

This is recognised in the recent "Security Industrial Policy" released by the European Commission - Brussels, 26.7.2012 COM(2012) 417 final, in which it makes mentions to this specifically on page 7. (We are communicating closely with DG Enterprise & industry on this issue)

" There are currently, no EU-wide certification systems for security technologies. National systems differ widely, thus significantly contributing to the fragmentation of the security
  market. The Commission has identified areas where[8], in an initial phase, it would make the most sense to set up an EU-wide certification system, starting with:
– airport screening (detection) equipment; and
– alarm systems[9]
....
As regards alarm systems, some European performance standards already exist. Moreover, there exists the industry-led certification mechanism CertAlarm. However, this system is
faced with the problem that it is privately run and that Member State authorities have no obligation to accept certificates established under the scheme.
In the future, products certified on the basis of an EU wide certification system could receive an "EU Security Label", similar to the CE marking used in the field of product safety. "

Euralarm have long been working for a pan European certification scheme and helped establish "CertAlarm", as an independant pan European certification scheme acknowledged by the EA (European co-operation for
Accreditation)   http://www.certalarm.org/ca/index.php

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CERTALARM - The Quality Mark fo

Euralarm would therefore propose that any support, legislative or otherwise, to promote a pan-European certification scheme or Quality mark would help both the European security market as well as making trade in security products into Europe more straightforward.

I hope this information is of help in your study and feel free to contact me for more information as required.

Best Regards

Glen Dale
General Director
EURALARM