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From: John Joyal@amat.com Letter of Comment No: 5353 File Reference: 1102-100

Sent:

Thursday, June 24, 2004 2:26 PM

Director - FASB To:

Subject: File Reference 1102-100: Accounting for Stock Options and ESPPs

Director of FABS.

I am writing to express my opposition to changing the accounting treatment for stock options and Employee Stock Purchase Plans

As an employee of Applied Materials Inc., my family and I have benefitted from our company stock purchase plan by purchasing stock at a discounted price through the plan and by dollar averaging our investments through payroll deduction. This income has allowed my family to enjoy a higher standard of living and a greater rate of savings. This type of plan is an important part of my overall compensation package and ensures that I have a vested interest in the growth and profitability of my company. In these times when company pension plans are disappearing, Stock Purchase and Stock Option Plans are very important to my overall retirement plan. Please consider the impact on the soon to be retiring population that will be depending on this type of savings to supplement their Social Security and 401K incomes.

Regards, John Joyal 512-238-7257