## ikon

From: Nikhil\_Batra@amat.com

Sent: Monday, June 21, 2004 12:45 PM

To: Director - FASB

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

## Dear Director:

I am writing to express my opposition to changing the accounting treatment for stock options and Employee Stock Purchase Plans (ESPPs). I joined Applied Materials a couple years ago. One of the main reasons I joined and have been happy with Applied Materials' compensation package is because the stock option and ESPP incentive plan. These incentives help keep the technology and manufacturing industries competitive in hiring bright individuals. If the accounting treatment for stock options and ESPPs change, I may consider looking to other industries such as services for employment because they offer lucrative bonuses as their incentives. Technology and manufacturing already face great challenges in the global marketplace. Please do not make the difficulties even greater with the proposed legislation. America's middle class will suffer even more as companies will ultimately drop stock incentives from their offerings and the only people that will suffer is the middle class who fights every day to improve the lives of their children.

Letter of Comment No: 5057 File Reference: 1102-100

Thank you, Nick Batra