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**From:** Bill\_Evans@amat.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 17, 2004 3:32 PM  
**To:** Director - FASB  
**Subject:** File Reference 1102-100: Accounting for Stock Options and ESPPs

**Letter of Comment No:** 4564 -  
**File Reference:** 1102-100

I am writing to express my opposition to changing the accounting treatment for stock options and Employee Stock Purchase Plans (ESPPs). As an older employee, Stock Options awarded for performance, represents one of the few opportunities remaining for me to hope for a retirement beyond Social Security minimums. The possibility of receiving Stock Options creates far more enthusiasm and creativity than does the routine performance increase. Regulation which would discourage companies from participating in a Stock Option program would do more to adversely affect factory output and product development than most would imagine, while eliminating a valuable incentive for talented prospects to join our company.

My next step towards a better retirement is to enroll in the Employee Stock Purchase Plan. Fully realizing that both the Stock Option and E SPP plans are contingent upon stock market performance, they still remain the best opportunity for my future and that of other employees who have maintained a high degree of performance to qualify.

6/18/2004