## Len Tatore

From: Sent: David Wolf [dawolf@cisco.com] Thursday, April 22, 2004 11:11 PM

Letter of Comment No: 1461

File Reference: 1102-100

To: Subject:

Director - FASB Stock Options

TO:

Chairman Robert H. Herz

SUBJ: File Reference No. 1102-100

Greetings,

I am an employee of Cisco Systems and the Director of a large sales operation supporting Service Provider customers. I have been with Cisco for five years and become a firm believer in the value of a stock option incentive system.

I manage a large team of sales and engineering professionals who are arguably some of the most dedicated and hard working individuals in the industry. I attribute their motivation and loyalty to Cisco's unique system of granting stock options to a broad set of employees across the company. The stock options serve as a strong incentive and provide a feeling of ownership unlike anything I have experienced in my 25+ years. The options enable employees to vest their time and talent in exchange for the ability to participate in the success of the company.

I am firmly against the FASB plan to expense options for the following reasons:

- \* The artificially high valuation for a stock option required by FASB will eliminate stock options as a tool which has driven innovation and productivity. \* Stock options do not meet the definition of an expense because they do not use company assets.
- \* The true cost of a stock option is dilution of earnings per share (EPS) and is already accounted for when options are exercised.

I strongly recommend your consideration to avoid mandating the expensing of options. America's technology industry already faces stiff global competition and will only be further handicapped by removing this valuable incentive program.

Thank you again for your consideration and support.

Sincerely,

David J. Wolf

David Wolf

Operations Director & General Manager

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