

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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<http://www.iipa.com>**IIPA PRAISES US OUTCOMES ON IPR AT APEC SUMMIT****IIPA Welcomes Call on APEC Members to Use Only Legal Software and Other Copyright Materials, “Especially Pertaining to Internet Usage” and P2P Networks**

**Washington** — The International Intellectual Property Alliance (IIPA) praised the United States government for its active involvement in outcomes through the 14<sup>th</sup> Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation Economic Leaders' Meeting which concluded in late November. IIPA lauded the efforts of those at USTR and other US agencies for their hard work on achieving various significant outcomes to the copyright-based industries. In particular, IIPA noted the significance of APEC leaders' calling upon member economies to ensure “that central government[s] use only legal software and other copyright materials[,] that such bodies implement effective policies intended to prevent copyright infringement on their computer systems and via the Internet[,] and that central government funds are not used by contractors or recipient institutions to purchase illegal software or other illegal copyright materials.” IIPA noted that this means all state-funded entities should immediately legalize copyright uses and properly procure or adopt legal copyright materials, and that illegal P2P file sharing should be eradicated on government or government-funded networks. IIPA also expressed support for the “APEC Model Guidelines for Effective Public Awareness Campaigns on Intellectual Property Rights” and continues to support other guidelines and work toward reducing piracy, combating unauthorized optical disc production, and furthering the goal of full implementation and ratification of/accession to the WIPO Internet Treaties.

Speaking on behalf of the IIPA, Michael Schlesinger said, “APEC Leaders have charted the course for legalizing use of copyright materials by government entities, including in the online environment.” He added, “APEC Leaders have demonstrated that they understand the high stakes involved and the growing harm caused by Internet and P2P piracy, and that they are devoted to putting their government resources toward ensuring that all government-sanctioned or government-funded use of software, games, books, movies, and sound recordings is fully legal.”

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The International Intellectual Property Alliance (IIPA) is a coalition of seven trade associations representing U.S. copyright-based industries in bilateral and multilateral efforts to open up foreign markets closed by piracy and other market access barriers. These member associations represent over 1,900 U.S. companies producing and distributing materials protected by copyright laws throughout the world—all types of computer software, including business applications software and entertainment software (such as videogame discs and cartridges, personal computer CD-ROMs, and multimedia products); theatrical films, television programs, DVDs and home video and digital representations of audiovisual works; music, records, CDs, and audiocassettes; and textbooks, trade books, reference and professional publications and journals (in both electronic and print media).

In October 2004, the IIPA released its latest economic report, entitled *Copyright Industries in the U.S. Economy: The 2004 Report*, the tenth such study written by Stephen Siwek of Economists Inc. for IIPA. The latest data shows that in 2002, the U.S. “core” copyright industries accounted for an estimated 6% of U.S. Gross Domestic Product (GDP), or \$626.6 billion, and the “total” copyright industries accounted for an estimated 12% of U.S. GDP, or \$1.25 trillion. The “core” copyright industries employed 4% of U.S. workers in 2002, or 5.48 million persons. Between 1997 and 2001, the “core” copyright industries' employment grew at an annual growth rate of 3.19% per year, a rate more than double the annual employment rate achieved by the U.S. economy as a whole (1.39% per year). Finally, in 2002, the U.S. copyright industries achieved foreign sales and exports estimated at \$89.26 billion, leading other major industry sectors such as chemicals and related products, motor vehicles, equipment and parts, and aircraft and aircraft parts.