



2020 Federal and Global Policy Priorities

PRIVACY

Consumers benefit from new technologies, which depend on innovative business models that leverage trusted, secure and accessible Internet based platforms. Data policies should promote responsible use of consumer data while allowing continued innovation and improvement of the user experience. We support:

- **Federal privacy legislation.** Comprehensive legislation that pre-empts state laws and protects consumer privacy without hampering innovation.
- **Data policies that permit innovation.** Policies that allow for technological advancements in emerging areas like artificial intelligence (AI), biometrics, and geolocation.
- **Responsible AI.** Promoting innovation by allowing responsible and ethical uses of data in artificial intelligence systems.
- **Platform protection:** Preserving Section 230 of the Communications Decency Act (CDA230).
- **Data breach notification.** A national notification standard that allows entities to focus on notification and resolving the breach instead of compliance with a myriad of conflicting laws.

CYBERSECURITY AND SUPPLY CHAIN SECURITY

Cybersecurity and supply chain security are best addressed through public-private collaboration and industry-led risk management that is flexible and can match the pace of rapidly developing technologies. We support:

- **Risk-based frameworks.** Frameworks that help entities identify, manage, and communicate risk to foster a more resilient cyber ecosystem, while enabling and incentivizing organizations to innovate cybersecurity solutions.
- **IoT baseline.** Development of a core baseline of IoT security requirements that can be tailored to fit individual ecosystem needs and evolve as technology progresses.

- **Public-private partnerships.** Government efforts to enhance the security and reliability of domestic networks and other IT systems through open and transparent partnerships with the private sector.
- **Avoiding prescriptive requirements.** Avoiding prescriptive regulation and trade barriers such as broad country-of-origin bans that would result in unintended consequences and harmful effects on long-established, trusted suppliers.
- **Narrow tailoring of national security actions.** Ensuring that any federal actions to restrict equipment and services based on national security agency determinations are narrowly tailored, focused on securing U.S. networks, and based upon well-defined processes.

WORKFORCE

CompTIA uniquely sits at the intersection of innovation, education, and economic growth. We support policies that promote a skilled workforce by expanding life-long computer science and IT learning. We support:

- **Immigration reform.** High-skilled immigration reform, including increasing green cards for high-skilled STEM graduates, creating new visas for entrepreneurs, and implementing market-based visa caps.
- **Training.** Modernizing the workforce by increasing alternative pathways into the workforce through work-based programs like apprenticeships, and by increasing the deployment and adoption of private sector-led initiatives that align with local and regional workforce demands and developing trends in the industry.
- **Education.** Modernizing the education system by making targeted P-20 STEM investments to ensure students of all ages can benefit from the digital economy, developing initiatives that encourage underrepresented communities and veterans to pursue IT career paths, and increasing the adoption of experiential learning.

GLOBAL TRADE AND MARKET ACCESS

In an increasingly competitive global economy, an open and balanced trading environment is essential to maintain U.S. leadership in IT. U.S. companies rely on global supply chains and depend on trade agreements to secure access to new markets. We support:

- **USMCA.** Congressional approval of the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Trade Agreement (USMCA).
- **China.** A final agreement with China that removes tariffs and restores confidence and predictability, and recognition of the IT sector's needs in Section 301 proceedings.
- **Digital trade.** Including robust technology and digital trade provisions in future trade agreements to be negotiated with countries such as Brazil, India, and the United Kingdom.
- **WTO.** Making permanent the WTO Moratorium on customs duties on electronic transmissions and reaching an early agreement on the WTO E-Commerce negotiations that promotes ambitious and inclusive international digital trade rules.
- **Cross-border data flows.** Movement of data across borders, including privacy approaches that enable cross-border data flows.

Meanwhile, **we oppose:**

- **Prohibitive market access conditions.** Prohibitive regulatory requirements for access including cybersecurity mandates and source code disclosure requirements.
- **Trade barriers.** Practices such as charging duties unilaterally (India, China), customs classification requirements for digitally enabled goods and services, and unilateral digital tax measures.

TAX

Pro-innovation tax and regulatory policies are essential to spur innovation and grow our economy. We support:

- **Permanent incentives for innovation.** Creating a permanent and competitive tax code that incentivizes investment for businesses of all sizes, improves access to capital, and provides expanded support mechanisms for high-growth businesses.
- **Simple and fair interstate taxation.** Sales tax treatment across jurisdictions that is consistent, balanced, and predictable; simplifying nonresident employee and employer reporting and withholding requirements; treating digital products the same as tangible goods; and avoiding additional compliance burdens.

BROADBAND AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Rapid deployment of more advanced networks and technologies is essential to ensuring access, innovation, economic growth, and continued U.S. technology leadership. Broadband and telecommunications policies must therefore promote innovation and robust deployment. We support:

- **Bipartisan net neutrality legislation.** Legislation that supports innovation, investment, and competition on the Internet by providing policy certainty to the IT ecosystem.
- **Section 230.** Preserving liability protections under Section 230 of the Communications Act, which have been vital to allowing both new and existing online services to innovate and thrive.
- **Broadband deployment.** Policies that improve broadband availability, competition, and the growth of IoT by removing barriers to broadband infrastructure deployment, including wireless infrastructure such as small cells.
- **Broadband investment.** Investments in broadband through infrastructure funding, incentives, and other policies.
- **Making spectrum available.** Making more licensed, lightly licensed, and unlicensed bands available on an exclusive or shared basis to support 5G, IoT, and rural broadband, including incentives that encourage federal agencies to make additional spectrum available for non-federal use.
- **Equipment authorization.** Allowing new wireless devices to be authorized and brought to market quickly, efficiently, and in a manner that promotes global harmonization.

EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES

The U.S. IT sector is being challenged by other nations seeking to claim the mantle of technology leadership in the 21st century. We support:

- **R&D and emerging platforms.** Federal policies that encourage research, development, and deployment of emerging technology platforms such as artificial intelligence, autonomous vehicles, blockchain, the Internet of Things, and smart cities.

EXPORT CONTROLS

CompTIA supports reasonable and clearly defined export regulations and sanctions that meet U.S. national security objectives. We support:

- **Emerging and Foundational Technologies.** Advocating that any new export controls are multilateral and isolated to technologies with defined national security implications.
- **License Exceptions.** Submitting comment letters on proposals that attempt to modify or remove existing Export Administration Regulations (EAR) license exceptions such as CIV and APR.
- **Congressional Actions which may Impact Export Controls and Sanctions.** Advocating in support of narrow provisions focused on reducing administrative burden, reducing duplicative regulatory structures and leverage existing export control system (e.g. NDAA).
- **China Export Control Law.** Monitoring developments and provide industry comments during next public review period.
- **Benchmarking.** Hosting one best practices or benchmarking topic panel discussion per quarter.
- **Education.** Developing and facilitating trade compliance programs in Shanghai and Beijing, China in 2020 for member company personnel, customers and business partners.

CUSTOMS

CompTIA advocates for customs policies that ensure the safety and security of shipments crossing borders and enhance trade facilitation. Our aim is to promote best practices for compliance with laws and regulations in a way that also minimizes financial and administrative impacts on our member companies. We support:

- **Customs Classification.** Advocating for member company classification issues and HS 2022 and HS 2027 amendments with U.S. Customs and Border Protection and U.S. International Trade Commission.
- **World Customs Organization.** Representing CompTIA and industry at quarterly WCO Harmonized System Committee and Review Subcommittee meetings in Brussels. Facilitating technical demonstrations and presentations in support of classification decisions and legal text amendments.
- **Legislation.** Monitoring and providing comments on Congressional actions which may impact import policy, regulation and customs compliance procedures.
- **Harmonized System.** Monitoring developments at the WCO regarding the “Strategic Review of the HS” and facilitate participation of CompTIA member companies in WCO stakeholder consultations.
- **Compliance.** Organizing and facilitating a 14th Annual CompTIA Global Trade Compliance Best Practices Conference hosted by Marvell in Santa Clara, CA on September 17, 2020.
- **Education.** Organizing and facilitating bidirectional education with the USCBP Electronics Center of Excellence and Expertise (CEE) during an in-person conference or via webinars.