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SIIA Applauds the Department of Commerce's Cybersecurity Paper

WASHINGTON, D.C. (June 8, 2011) – The Software & Information Industry Association (SIIA) today welcomed the Department of Commerce's Green Paper on Cybersecurity, Innovation and the Internet Economy as a positive step toward a balanced international cybersecurity policy. SIIA Vice President for Public Policy, Mark MacCarthy issued the following statement:

"SIIA applauds the Commerce Department's recognition that a substantial portion of the economy falls outside the perimeters of covered critical infrastructure, as defined by existing law and Administration policy. The report categorizes this large segment of the economy as the "Internet and Information Innovation Sector," and it includes many of the services and functions provided by members of SIIA.

"This is a productive first attempt to define the sector. We appreciate the focus on services and functionalities as an attempt to more clearly define the line between covered critical infrastructure and the other parts of the Internet economy. We intend to continue working closely with the Department of Commerce to refine their proposed definition of this sector."

"SIIA also welcomes the call for the development and utilization of voluntary reasonable security practices by this sector. In fact, the industry already complies with a large number of industry-specific and international security standards.

"SIIA agrees with the Department's emphasis on the need to avoid fragmented and unpredictable rules in the international sphere that frustrate innovation, free flow of information, and the broad commercial success of the online environment. We believe strongly that policymakers must take a global approach in order to be effective in meeting the global challenges of cyber threats."

About SIIA

The Software & Information Industry Association (SIIA) is the principal trade association for the software and digital content industries. SIIA provides global services in government relations, business development, corporate education and intellectual property protection to more than 500 leading software and information companies. For further information, visit: www.siia.net.

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