



**Information Technology Industry Council**  
Leading Policy for the Innovation Economy

Postal Regulatory Commission  
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November 20, 2008

The Honorable Dan G. Blair  
Chairman  
United States Postal Regulatory Commission  
901 New York Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20268

**Re: Review of Nonpostal Services, PRC Docket No. MC2008-1**

Dear Chairman Blair:

The Information Technology Industry Council (ITI) submits these comments in response to Order No. 126. ITI is the premier group of the nation's leading high-tech companies. ITI works to reduce barriers that stifle innovation, increase access to global markets, promote e-commerce expansion, protect consumer choice, and enhance the global competitiveness of our companies. ITI submits these comments in opposition to the United States Postal Service's recent venture into the imaging supplies business.

The Postal Service provides a basic and fundamental service – delivering affordable, reliable mail service throughout the country. New business lines, such as imaging supplies, that depart from this core focus are inconsistent with the Postal Service mission as an independent establishment of the executive branch of the United States and inconsistent with ITI's commitment to fair and open competition.

ITI understands that the purpose of this proceeding under the 2006 postal reform law is for the Postal Regulatory Commission to determine which, if any, "nonpostal" activities the Postal Service may engage in. Among other considerations in making its findings, the PRC is required to assess whether there is a public need for the Postal Service to engage in a specified nonpostal activity and whether the private sector can adequately meet the public need. The commercial imaging supplies market is vibrant and competitive. Since there can be no question that the private sector is adequately meeting the public need for imaging supplies, the introduction of government-sponsored competition is unnecessary and unwarranted.

Accordingly, ITI believes that it is inappropriate for the Postal Service to compete in commercial markets unrelated to its core postal business, and that Commission should order the Postal Service to withdraw from these markets. We would welcome the opportunity to respond to any questions that the Commission may have on this important matter.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Rhett B. Dawson  
President & CEO