



Public Policy Position Statement – 2009

Issue Statement: Buy American

ADTRAN appreciates the regulations such as the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) of 2009 that include provisions for “Buy America” which are intended to maximize the number of jobs created in this country.

We also recognize that the legislation requires that monies of the ARRA are spent in a manner consistent with U.S. international trade commitments and in the public interest. We believe an improper application of the “Buy America” requirements to broadband grants programs could constrain and delay broadband deployment under the grant program.

In order to expedite the process for rolling out broadband services to the target group of unserved and underserved rural areas identified in the ARRA, we advocate the continued use of the “Buy America” regulations listed in the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Rural Utilities Service (RUS). These regulations are in place today and have proven to work effectively over time in a manner consistent with the sentiment underlying the “Buy America” provisions.

The communications equipment industry is vital to our country’s opportunity to realize growth in the world economy and initiate innovation contributions that lead the global marketplace. Many of today’s most unique high-tech discoveries and inventions were born out of the research and development families of communications equipment companies like ADTRAN.