On behalf of Intel Corporation, I would like to extend my congratulations on your historic appointment to serve as the first chief technology officer (CTO) of the United States.

Intel looks forward to working with you and the new administration on accelerating technology innovation while enhancing U.S. technological growth and competitiveness. Intel believes it is imperative to unleash the American spirit of innovation and creativity through increased investment and industry/governmental cooperation in basic and applied scientific research. These changes along with dramatic improvements in math and science education are essential to the success of our nation. By driving the adoption of new laws, regulations and incentives that support these changes, we can address the fundamental challenges of our current economy, enhance the national security and benefit the global community now and into the future.

As you take on your new role as CTO, let me respectfully ask for your consideration in prioritizing the following in the creation of your technology agenda:

**Education/Research:** In an effort to prepare our children to compete in the 21st century economy, we need to invest in their education. I strongly encourage you and the Obama Administration to fund and support programs to bolster math, science and technology education programs for K-12 students, specifically the America Competes Act, as well as research and development in higher education.

As I am sure you know, government funding for long-term research has been on a steady decline. Universities are increasingly seeking industry support where government sources have disappeared. Unfortunately, the government’s timing could not have been worse, as competitive pressures on businesses have forced dramatic changes in the scope and scale of industrial research. The demand for immediate, bottom-line financial returns has greatly dampened the “blue sky” creativity that lead to so many of the technologies we take for granted, including the microprocessor, the Internet and broadband wireless communication. It is fundamental for the new administration to invest in long-term, high-risk research at leading universities and government/industrial research centers.

In terms of immediate action, I believe that the doubling of the DOE and NSF research budgets, part of the America Competes Act, and the stimulus package just introduced in the House is crucial.

Also, considering that R&D tax credits expired on Dec. 31, 2007, my colleagues and I advocate for enacting a multi-year extension of a strengthened R&D tax credit and providing funding for basic R&D at levels passed in congress in early December and recommended in former President Bush’s budget last year.

**Environment:** Intel supports a national policy regarding green technology and renewable energy and is a strong proponent of laws and policies designed to drive energy efficiency. We have long supported the EPA’s Energy Star program that is designed to harmonize international requirements.

Studies show that IT can play a positive role in improving energy efficiency and reducing climate emissions in other business sectors. We support mandate/incentives for business operations to move to be carbon neutral. Bold new tax incentives will stimulate environmental breakthroughs and encourage
consumers and businesses to purchase new energy-savings products and reduce energy costs. At Intel we take pride in the fact that we are, according the EPA, the largest corporate purchaser of green power in the U.S., and we successfully reduced our greenhouse gas emissions from our manufacturing processes 20 percent from 2004 to 2007.

**Broadband/Internet:** Intel believes that government regulations and policies ought to enable, not impede, the broadband revolution. We support incentives to make fast, affordable and high-quality broadband deployment a reality for all Americans. Intel is focused on federal initiatives to expedite the roll out of high-speed wireless technologies across entire cities. More broadly, we are actively promoting adoption of spectrum policies that allow carriers and manufacturers to make market driven agreements to deploy WiMax and other broadband wireless technologies. For purposes of bridging the digital divide, my company continues to back expanding the allocation of universal service funds beyond telephony so that all Americans can value and enjoy access to broadband services.

**Healthcare:** On behalf of Intel, I want to urge you, as the new CTO, and the Obama Administration to implement a new national healthcare network system that fully connects doctors, hospitals, labs and patients by 2012. Intel also supports funding to train 10,000 health IT specialists. New health IT equipment and training can help reduce costly medical errors and drive down health costs.

Intel also supports the funding of the National Institute of Health (NIH), as it conducts extensive research on technology solutions that enable independent living for seniors. And, we encourage the President to take steps by Executive Order to embrace, through pilot programs, electronic health records for military and federal service workers. Digitizing health records on a nation-wide basis can potentially provide multi-billion dollar cost reductions in our healthcare industry.

To stimulate broad support for these new policies, Intel took the opportunity to capture the technology industry’s opinion on this base set of national technology initiatives. We fielded a short online survey during the annual Consumer Electronics Show (CES), asking technology industry leaders to comment on these same focus areas we are recommending to you, as the CTO of the United States, and the new Obama Administration. The full results of the survey can be found here http://www.intel.com/pressroom/archive/reference/CES_Letter_to_Obama_CTO_Survey_Results.pdf.

On behalf of more than 84,000 Intel employees, of which more than half reside in the U.S., I congratulate you on your appointment and welcome the opportunity to work closely with you and your staff. I strongly believe that technology innovation is at the heart of American competitiveness and can both drive job creation and spur economic demand now and into the future.

Sincerely,

Justin R. Rattner
Intel Chief Technology Officer
Senior Fellow and Vice President, Corporate Technology Group