



Motor & Equipment Manufacturers Association

The Voice of the Motor Vehicle Supplier Industry

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November 4, 2011

Ambassador Ron Kirk
United States Trade Representative
600 17th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20508

Dear Ambassador Kirk:

The Motor & Equipment Manufacturers Association (MEMA) represents over 700 companies that manufacture and remanufacture motor vehicle parts for use in the light and heavy-duty vehicle original equipment and aftermarket industries. Motor vehicle parts manufacturers are the nation's largest manufacturing sector, directly employing over 685,000 American workers. MEMA represents its members through four affiliate associations: Automotive Aftermarket Suppliers Association (AASA), Heavy Duty Manufacturers Association (HDMA), Motor & Equipment Remanufacturers Association (MERA) and the Original Equipment Suppliers Association (OESA). This industry has grave concerns with China's influence on the world supply of rare earth elements.

MEMA recognizes the United States Trade Representative's (USTR) efforts to secure the rare earth supply for manufacturers and encourages the U.S. to take a strong position at the upcoming U.S.-China Joint Commission on Commerce & Trade meeting. This summer's favorable decision by the World Trade Organization (WTO) on raw materials from China, and hopefully a favorable appeal decision early next year, should be instrumental in persuading China to rethink its current rare earth export policy. While fully aware that there are many pressing issues relating to U.S.-China trade, MEMA joins other key sectors in the belief that rare earth elements should be a priority in the U.S.-China dialogue.

For the motor vehicle parts industry, rare earth elements are playing an increasingly important role in the innovative technologies developed and manufactured by suppliers that will help drive future growth, such as hybrid engines, batteries, and electronic components. MEMA has spoken with the USTR China Office and has agreed to provide your staff with data and other information demonstrating the potential impact China's rare earth export controls will have on our industry.

Thank you for your receptiveness on this issue and I look forward to working with you to help change China's trade distorting rare earth policies. Please contact Dan Houton at 202-312-9250 or dhouton@mema.org for more information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert E. McKenna". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a white background.

Robert E. McKenna
President & CEO



Automotive Aftermarket
Suppliers Association



Heavy Duty
Manufacturers Association



Motor & Equipment
Remanufacturers Association



Original Equipment
Suppliers Association