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Subject: European Parliament Trade Secrets Briefing

Greetings all,

After quite a bit of discussion back and forth, it looks like we will be able to have our proposed briefing on trade secrets at the European Parliament in Brussels on the afternoon of Wednesday, 19th November. ICC and CREATE.org are organising this meeting -- I am waiting for final confirmation of the room and time from the office of Mrs. Comi, the IMCO rapporteur, who will be joining us.

In the interest of time, I wanted to get this information to you as soon as possible, to see if the Commission and Baker & McKenzie would be available to participate? Below is our suggested agenda:

1. The importance of trade secrets -- not an add-on to patent protection but an independent incentive for innovation, particularly for SMEs - [Company/industry views – ICC SME – ICC Research Paper]
2. The risks of trade-secret theft: A case study – [SME or other company rep]
3. Current state and importance of trade secret protection in Europe – [Hogan Lovells] [PwC] [B&M]
4. The Commission/Council common position – [Commission]
5. The added value of the Directive across all industries and EU countries – [Company/industry views]
6. Industry's role – best practices in protecting trade secrets [CREATE.org]

The ICC has a Belgian SME speaker that is interested in talking about their use of trade secrets and the ICC paper, and I will be talking about industry leading practices in the area for CREATE.org. We are still working on getting other industry and SME participants to speak on other topics and to participate in the room. If you have any suggestions on industry speakers that you have found particularly helpful, that would also be very useful information.

More to follow!

All the best,

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 Intellectual Property Counsel

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