

1 November 2007

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Pelosi:

I am writing on behalf of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers-United States of America (IEEE-USA) to urge you to join and become an active participant in the Congressional Caucus on Robotics. This bipartisan caucus was formed by Representative(s) Mike Doyle (PA) and Zach Wamp (TN) to promote awareness of the issues and challenges facing the U.S. robotics industry as well as highlighting the significant contributions robotics make to the U.S. economy and national security.

The term “robotics” was coined by famed science fiction writer Isaac Asimov in 1941, however, the robotics industry has transcended the mystical world of science fiction and is now a vital component of the U.S. economic, technological and national security infrastructures. Robotics is a \$10 billion industry with over 1.4 million active robots in the world performing such essential tasks as space exploration, defense, security, manufacturing and even surgery.

As the co-chairs of the caucus have indicated, the goals of the bipartisan Robotics Caucus will include:

- Increasing general awareness of robotics industry challenges and issues among Members of Congress and policy analysts in the federal government;
- Educating Members of Congress and congressional staff on current and future research, development, and utilization initiatives involving robotics;
- Serving as a forum where robotics-related policy issues can be discussed and debated; and
- Ensuring that our nation remains globally competitive as the robotics industry rapidly expands and begins to exert a profound effect on the way our citizens live their lives.

IEEE-USA strongly supports these goals and we urge every member of the House of Representatives to join the Congressional Caucus on Robotics. Please contact David Lucas (Doyle) at 5x2135 or Amanda Schoch (Wamp) at 5x3271 for more information or to join the Caucus.

IEEE-USA advances the public good and promotes the careers and public policy interests of more than 215,000 engineers, scientists and allied professionals who are U.S. members of the IEEE. IEEE-USA is part of the IEEE, the world's largest technical professional society with 370,000 members in 160 countries. IEEE has a subsidiary unit, the Robotics and Automation Society that specifically focuses on issues at the forefront of the technology and would be happy to provide any information on the field that it can. See <http://www.ieeeusa.org> and <http://www.ieee-ras.org>. Please contact Bill Williams at (202) 530-8331 if we can be of any assistance.

Sincerely,



John W. Meredith, P.E.  
President, IEEE-USA

***(SAMPLE OF LETTER SENT TO U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES)***