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Tech Leaders Urge Presidential Candidates to Embrace Innovation, Entrepreneurship, Skills Development, and U.S. Technology Leadership

Washington— In an unprecedented move, TechNet, the national, bipartisan network of innovation economy CEOs and senior executives, today joined with a dozen other technology organizations to urge the Democratic and Republican presidential candidates to embrace a “Technology Sector Presidential Platform” that will drive economic growth, innovation, and job creation in the United States.

In an open letter to candidates, the organizations called on the next president to work with the tech sector to advance an agenda that:

- (1) Ensures Americans possess the skills and talents needed for 21st century success;
- (2) Fosters a business climate that rewards risk and promotes innovation;
- (3) Encourages a fair and open global market for goods and services; and
- (4) Maintains cutting-edge U.S. infrastructure that supports entrepreneurs.

In addition, the organizations identified a dozen policy areas to advance major goals of the tech industry, including: **strengthening the skills of America’s workforce; creating jobs and growing the economy; fostering trusted networks; propelling innovation; and promoting new technology in the government.**

The letter was signed by Linda Moore, president and CEO of TechNet, as well as the leaders of Allied for Startups; BSA | The Software Alliance; Computer & Communications Industry Association (CCIA); Computing Technology Industry Association (CompTIA); Consumer Technology Association (CTA); Information Technology Industry Council (ITI); Internet Association; Semiconductor Industry Association (SIA); Silicon Valley Leadership Group; Software & Information Industry Association (SIIA); Technology CEO Council; and the Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA).

“The innovation economy is a major engine of growth and job creation in the United States, but our global leadership in this area is by no means guaranteed,” said Linda Moore. **“That’s why the next President of the United States must make this area a top priority. If we don’t, we could cede our technology leadership to other nations. That’s why the tech industry has**

come together in an unprecedented fashion to make it clear that no matter who is president, we must address the real challenges facing our industry and the nation.”

A copy of the letter is available upon request.

About TechNet

TechNet is the national, bipartisan network of technology CEOs and senior executives that promotes the growth of the innovation economy by advocating a targeted policy agenda at the federal and 50-state level. TechNet’s diverse membership includes dynamic startups to the most iconic companies on the planet and represents more than 2.5 million employees in the fields of information technology, e-commerce, advanced energy, biotechnology, venture capital, and finance. TechNet has offices in Washington, D.C., Silicon Valley, San Francisco, Sacramento, Austin, Boston, Seattle, Albany, and Tallahassee.

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