

OCT 3 2000

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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Ms. Magalie Roman Salas
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St., S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

September 15th, 2000

Re: **Ultra-Wideband
ET Docket 98-153**

Dear Ms. Salas,

I am writing you in response to the FCC's Notice of Proposed Rule Making on ultra-wideband radio. STMicroelectronics (ST) is a broad range, global semiconductor manufacturer, ranked 8th in the world last year, with sales of \$5B. We have major R&D, manufacturing and sales operations in the the US. ST is a leading component supplier to many large volume electronics equipment makers and in particular to cellular phones makers. In 1999, ST America won the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality award.

We have been carefully following the development of ultra-wideband radio for almost 2 years. Our conclusion is that the technology will enable ubiquitous high-speed, short-range wireless connectivity, which has proved elusive so far, making internet appliances finally a market reality. Beyond this, we believe that the inherent communication, radar and positioning capabilities of the technology will foster a number of high volume applications economically unthinkable today, improving consumers' safety and well-being.

We also believe, as an organization deeply committed to the protection of the environment, that decreasing the overall level of transmitted power of wireless systems is a goal that the industry as a whole should be aiming at in a collaborative fashion. Ultra-wideband radio is an important step in that direction.

But, as the need for connectivity increases, other solutions, albeit inferior, will find their way to market recognition and will make it difficult as time goes by for ultra-wideband to evolve into a major technology. We believe that the technology is mature enough to be quickly brought to high volume markets, provided that the FCC promptly authorizes its use in terms which would bring maximum performance and minimum restriction to consumer use.

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We believe that ultra-wideband radio is a unique opportunity for wireless communication which also addresses our and the public's concern regarding radio frequency emissions. We hope that the FCC will soon make ultra-wideband radio possible.

Regards,

Andrea Cuomo
Vice President
Advanced System Technology

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andrea Cuomo". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a long, horizontal stroke.