The Coalition for Security and Competitiveness

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 30, 2010

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Coalition for Security and Competitiveness Welcomes Ratification of UK, Australia Defense Treaties

Washington, DC – The Coalition for Security and Competitiveness (CSC) today welcomed Senate ratification of Defense Trade Cooperation Treaties with the United Kingdom and Australia, and both chambers' passage of the implementing legislation earlier this week. The CSC released the following statement:

"We applaud Congress for acting to ratify and implement Defense Trade Cooperation Treaties with the UK and Australia – two of the strongest strategic allies of the United States. The UK and Australia have stood alongside the United States as we have confronted numerous national and global security challenges.

"The Treaties ratified yesterday are an important step forward in our bilateral relationships with both countries, and will help to ensure that all three nations have the tools necessary to combat threats and safeguard our national security interests.

"Once implemented, the Treaties will greatly improve our system for sharing defense technology by streamlining the licensing system, which will allow for more effective interchange of these important tools. The Treaties will also help advance the economic competitiveness of the U.S. aerospace and defense industry and help sustain and create American jobs. In 2009, the industry enjoyed a record trade surplus of \$56 billion.

"The CSC urges the Administration to work closely with the UK and Australian governments to swiftly implement the Treaties."

About the Coalition:

The Coalition for Security and Competitiveness was launched in March 2007, with an eye toward enhancing U.S. security and competitiveness through modernization of the export control system. The U.S. needs an export control regime that is rigorous, transparent, predictable and efficient in order to meet the security and economic challenges of the 21st century. The Coalition's member associations include the Aerospace Industries Association of Exporters and Importers, the American Chemistry Council, The American League for Exports and Security Assistance, AMT – The Association for Manufacturing Technology, Business Roundtable, the Coalition for Employment Through Exports, the General Aviation Manufacturers Association, the Industrial Fasteners Institute, the Information Technology Industry Council, IPC – Association, the National Association of Manufacturers, the National Defense Industrial Association, the National Foreign Trade Council, the Satellite Industry Association, the Space Enterprise Council, the Space Foundation, TechAmerica and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. More information about the coalition can be found at <u>www.securityandcompetitiveness.org</u>.