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Semiconductor Industry Association

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**SIA Applauds Presidential Candidates for Engaging in Science Debate*****--Leadership in Technology Critical to Economic Growth and National Security--***

**San Jose, CA – September 16, 2008** – The Semiconductor Industry Association (SIA) today applauded Senators McCain and Obama for participating in Science Debate 2008. Both candidates have provided detailed written answers to key science questions, including the candidates' strategy for maintaining U.S. leadership in innovation. The complete responses of both candidates can be found at <http://www.sciencedebate2008.com/>. SIA is a member of the ScienceDebate2008.com coalition.

"For more than half a century, leadership in technology has provided the foundation for driving America's economic growth, improving the productivity of American workers, enhancing our standard of living, and ensuring our national security," said SIA President George Scalise. "Both Senator Obama and Senator McCain recognize that we must take action to reinvigorate our nation's innovative capabilities."

Senators Obama and McCain have provided detailed comments on 14 questions posed by ScienceDebate2008.com, a nonpartisan organization that is leading an effort to make science issues a larger part of this year's election.

"While both Senator McCain and Senator Obama recognize the importance of science and technology to America's future, there are differences in their respective approaches. I encourage members of the semiconductor community to read the candidates' views on science and technology as they consider who to vote for in November," Scalise concluded.

***About the SIA***

The SIA is the leading voice for the semiconductor industry and has represented U.S. semiconductor companies since 1977. Collectively, the chip industry employs a domestic workforce of 216,000 people. More information about the SIA can be found at [www.sia-online.org](http://www.sia-online.org).