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May 15, 1997

Belden Wire & Cable Company
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Richmond, Indiana 47374-7279
Telephone: 317 983 5200
Facsimile: 317 983 5294

Mr. William Caton
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Mr. Caton:

I am communicating in response to FCC Docket #CS97-80 regarding signal leakage. As a leader in coaxial drop cable manufacturing, Belden recognizes the importance of minimizing signal leakage and the necessary coaxial constructions to accomplish this objective.

Belden's many years of involvement with the Society of Telecommunication Engineers, in addition to our history of application and installation of coaxial drop cable, positions us as a credible resource. With that said, Belden recognizes that a major cause of RF signal leakage is due to inadequately shielded coaxial drop cables.

Belden, other coaxial drop cable manufacturers, operators, and the SCTE have spent years developing a specification which defines the materials used and how they are assembled to achieve proper shielding and RF integrity. Belden is recommending to the FCC that the commission adopt the coaxial drop cable specification SCTE IPS-SP-001a "Specification for Flexible RF Coaxial Drop Cable", dated May 29, 1996, as set forth by the SCTE. Since no current national consumer standard exists for this cable type, adoption of this SCTE specification would support the consumer in purchasing the proper shielded products.

If you require additional information or support please contact me. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Allen P. Bierman
Sales and Marketing Manager
Broadband Products

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