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March 6, 2003

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Ex Parte Communication in CS Docket No. 97-80 (Commercial Availability of Navigation Devices) and PP Docket No. 00-67 (Compatibility Between Cable Systems and Consumer Electronics Equipment).

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On behalf of Thomson, Inc., on Wednesday, March 6, 2003, the undersigned spoke briefly with Rick Chessen, Associate Chief of the Media Bureau, to underscore the importance of the Commission taking no action to eliminate, extend or stay the January 1, 2005 date requiring the separation of conditional access and other functions in new navigation devices. To the extent any Commission action in this regard may be considered, it should be done only after the Commission has issued an Order to implement the CE-cable agreement, as reflected in the Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in the above-referenced proceedings, and with a full understanding of the implications of that accord, if any, for the January 1, 2005 requirement.

In accordance with Section 1.1206 of the Commission's Rules, 47 C.F.R. §1.1206, an original and one copy of this letter are being filed with your office.

Please direct any questions concerning this matter to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

*Lawrence R. Sidman*

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cc: Rick Chessen