

**NEMA SUPPORTS PNTR FOR VIETNAM, CALLS FOR ADMISSION
INTO THE WTO AS SOON AS POSSIBLE**

**Statement for the Record
Hearing on S.3495, Extension of Normal Trade Relations Treatment to Vietnam
Committee on Finance, United States Senate
July 12, 2006**

NEMA, the National Electrical Manufacturers Association, heartily welcomes the recent conclusion of negotiations between the U.S. and Vietnam that heralds the latter's approaching entry into the World Trade Organization as a full member. We call on the U.S. Congress to give this agreement its stamp of approval by granting Permanent Normal Trade Relations [PNTR] status to Vietnam as soon as possible – Capitol Hill should not let this slide. Not only does this portend improved market access for our members to a populous, burgeoning economy, but bringing Hanoi into the fold of the international body governing world trade has crucial geopolitical implications as well.

Our association, a member of the U.S.-Vietnam WTO Coalition, recently hosted a delegation of Vietnamese standards experts, and looks forward to further exchanges with counterparts from this important Southeast Asian nation.

NEMA is the trade association of choice for the electrical manufacturing industry. Founded in 1926 and headquartered near Washington, D.C., its 430 member companies manufacture products used in the generation, transmission and distribution, control, and use of electricity. These products are used in utility, medical, industrial, commercial, institutional, and residential applications. Domestic production of electrical products sold worldwide exceeds \$120 billion. In addition to its headquarters in Rosslyn, Virginia, NEMA also has offices in Beijing, Sao Paulo, and Mexico City.

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