

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20502

March 2, 2004

Mr. Marc R. Benioff
Chairman and CEO Salesforce.com
Suite 300
The Landmark@One Market
San Francisco, CA 94105

Dear Mr. Benioff:

I would like to take this opportunity both to thank you for your service as co-chair of the President's Information Technology Advisory Committee (PITAC) and to outline my expectations regarding PITAC's work on cyber security. I look forward to PITAC's engagement in this important issue.

As per Executive Order 13035, as amended, PITAC exists "to provide the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC), through the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy, with advice and information on high-performance computing and communications, information technology, and the Next Generation Internet." With this role in mind, I would like PITAC to address the following questions with regard to the Networking and Information Technology Research and Development Program (NITRD), as well as other relevant federally-funded research and development programs:

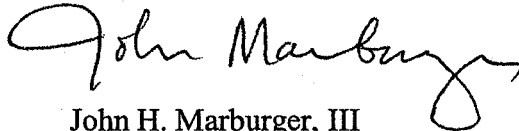
1. How well is the Federal government targeting the right cyber security research areas, and how well has it balanced its priorities among cyber security research areas? In particular, how well balanced is federally funded cyber security research between shorter term, lower risk research and longer-term, higher risk research?
2. How effective have the Federal government's cyber security research programs been in terms of the successful outcomes of the research and the value of the research results?
3. How useful have the research results proven as measured by implementation to improve the security of our computing and networking environments? What modifications to research areas, development efforts or technology transfer would improve utility and encourage broader implementation of cyber security technologies?
4. How well are current Federal research efforts and supporting institutions able to anticipate or respond to paradigm shifts or fundamental shifts in technology that can create unexpected cyber security challenges?

Based on the findings of PITAC with regard to these questions, I request that PITAC present any recommendations you deem appropriate that would assist us in strengthening the NITRD program or other cyber security research programs of the Federal Government.

In addressing this charge, I ask that you consider what the roles of the Federal Government in cyber security research should be, given that other entities are also involved in this field. I also ask that you specifically consider the balance between Federal research aimed at improving security within the current computing and network environment and Federal research aimed at fundamental advances in computing and network architectures that would improve the intrinsic security of the environment.

I request that PITAC deliver its response to this charge by December 31, 2004.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "John Marburger, III". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping "J" and "M".

John H. Marburger, III
Director

Letter also sent to: Edward D. Lazowska, Ph.D.