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CONTACT: Paul Vetter
614-383-1630
Paul.Vetter@fahlgren.com

**E-WASTE EXPORT LIMITS KEY TO CHINA TRADE TALKS,
CAER TESTIFIES BEFORE U.S. TRADE REPRESENTATIVE PUBLIC HEARING**

May 18, 2018 – Limits on e-waste exports from the U.S. should be a key component of trade negotiations with China due to counterfeiting concerns, the [Coalition for American Electronic Recycling](#) (CAER) stated this week before the United States Trade Representative’s public hearing on Proposed Determination of Action Pursuant to Section 301: China’s Acts, Policies, and Practices Related to Technology Transfer, Intellectual Property, and Innovation.

“E-waste exports from our shores provide feedstock for counterfeiters of electronic components, based primarily in China, that pose a serious threat to our national security, critical infrastructure and public health and safety,” said Tom Sharpe of SMT Corporation, an electronics distributor with expertise in counterfeit detection in his submitted testimony. “Counterfeiters harvest parts from used computers, then use sophisticated techniques to create fake components that are challenging to detect once they enter supply chains.”

The testimony also highlighted how e-waste exports lead to theft of intellectual property from semiconductor companies that spend tens of billions of dollars to develop and manufacture electronic components. In contrast, counterfeiters take used parts from e-waste, refurbish them, and then re-sell them as “new.”

To address the problem, CAER urged the USTR to begin the process of adding e-waste to the Export Control List. “This would have the benefit of protecting U.S. intellectual property from counterfeiters, encouraging the growth of a domestic e-recycling industry and ensuring that the electronics that we rely on for so many things are safe for our military, our first responders, and our consumers,” Sharpe said in his testimony. A recent study shows that requiring domestic recycling of e-waste would create up to 42,000 quality jobs.

The full testimony is available on the CAER website by clicking [here](#). CAER includes more than 150 companies and supporting members operating approximately 300 facilities in 37 states and Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia. Visit the CAER website for a complete [member list](#).