

THE COALITION OF SERVICE INDUSTRIES HOSTS REMARKS FROM REP.  
JOSEPH CROWLEY, D-N.Y. AND REP. KEVIN BRADY, R-TEXAS AT THE  
GLOBAL SERVICES SUMMIT

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SPEAKERS: REP. JOSEPH CROWLEY, D-N.Y.

REP. KEVIN BRADY, R-TEXAS

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(UNKNOWN): Ladies and gentlemen, may I have your attention, please? To introduce our distinguished luncheon speakers, please welcome the chairman of CSI and the president of International MetLife, Bill Toppetta.

TOPPETTA: Thank you. This is the closing session of what I hope you'll agree has been a very successful summit. I was waiting for applause. Thank you. You see, it says -- it says here, "applause." So I -- and if I don't follow my script, my staff gets very upset.

Now, in your -- in your welcoming packages, seriously, we -- we gave you a little letter and we said, "Please participate enthusiastically over the next couple of days" and I want to thank all of you for exceeding our expectations in that respect. We've -- we've had a great dialogue and I think that our -- our role now is to turn the dialogue and the great conversation into action.

And so in that connection, I have the privilege today of introducing two members of Congress. I'm going to introduce both of them together even though Congressman Brady isn't here yet, but I'm sure he will be here, and I'll hand off first to Congressman Crowley. So let me do that.

The first thing I'd like to say is that both of these gentleman

have been founders and leaders of the Congressional Services Caucus and they've really created this organization, they've sustained this organization and they've demonstrated their -- their leadership. And so we're very proud of -- of both of them.

The Congressional Services Caucus you probably know is now in its third year. It has 61 members, which is extraordinary. It focuses on the contributions of services to job creation, to trade, to investment and to U.S. competitiveness in the global economy and the caucus has been a great form for open, honest and direct conversation, both between members of Congress, but also with members of the business community, the administration and -- and other interested parties. So it's really been a -- a terrific organization.

In addition to that, that the caucus really gives the services industry and the members of the services industry the attention that they deserve and that they need to push forward with growth of our businesses around the globe.

So for their leadership, I think we ought to give both Congressman Crowley and Congressman Brady a round of applause, please.

Ready to go?

CROWLEY: Ready.

TOPPETTA: OK.

CROWLEY: Ready to go.

TOPPETTA: OK.

CROWLEY: Thank you, Bill, very much for the -- for the warm introduction. On behalf of both myself and bipartisanly Kevin Brady as well. Kevin, I'm sure, will be here soon. And when you see Kevin, we look alike in many respects. We're both of Irish descent. We both have -- are follicly challenged and Kevin is here right now. He's -- you -- you can tell exactly that we are oftentimes mistaken for each other.

So Kevin, come on up. They want us up at the same time, they told me.

BRADY: Is that right?

CROWLEY: So you can see why people get us confused all the time

-- time to time.

BRADY: Get out of here.

CROWLEY: It's -- it is great to have such a great working relationship with Kevin Brady, who's a friend as well as a colleague, and we happen to be on opposite sides of the political fence or the aisle. But he's a genuine American, believes very passionately in -- in this country and -- and our possibilities, as do I. And his friendship throughout the years, he's always been kind and above kind. He's always worked with me in a fair and honest way and very -- and -- and all this important.

I think, as you've heard probably throughout your career your -- your word is your bond and if you lose that, you lose everything, and that's something that Kevin and I have been able to maintain with each other throughout the years. So -- and I'm told that Kevin and I may be traveling soon. It's a possibility maybe going to Singapore with the administration of -- for the epic summit later this year. So Kevin, it's great to share the stage in some way with you again.

Just to speak for about five or 10 minutes, I don't think I'm going to have time to take any questions only because I have to go back for a leadership meeting with the Ways and Means Committee and the House Leadership. So please your forbearance is -- is appreciated.

Kevin may be able to stay longer and -- and answer some of those questions on my behalf. Is that right, Kevin? You're -- let me also just add a little bit to the introduction that Bill had for me.

I not only am a founding member and co-chair of the Services Caucus, and very much appreciate all the members that have signed on to that, I also chair on the House Democratic side of the aisle, something known as the New Democratic Coalition, a group of 68 Democrats who believe in a pro-growth, a pro-innovation agenda.

Not all of us, but many of us believe that a part of that pro-growth innovation agenda includes fair free trade agreements and we're hoping to move the administration and the Congress towards that agenda sooner rather than later.

I know that you had the opportunity to hear from Ambassador Kirk, I guess, was yesterday. And I'm glad to -- to -- to hear his comments as it relates to Doha and the need for the U.S. to -- to move that forward, but do not forget the services end of that -- of that

discussion that we know that the growth in jobs in the United States has been at the services end and I for one look at a building that has been the benefactor of the insourcing of jobs, City Group (ph) in Long Island City.

Although it's had its difficulties throughout the past few months, it has really been a job plus for New York City as has been many of the financial services industry jobs located in New York City. But for the downturn we've had in the economy has really, really been a positive for New York City.

So I do think that there was a give and take and we often times I think as Americans focus on the give as opposed to what we get in terms of a benefit. And I think that's something that the Services Caucus works on and needs to focus on as well in terms of messaging to our constituency, the needs for giving and taking, but we do have a problem. There's no question about it.

There is an awful lot of angst out there. Much of the health care debate that you -- much of the problems with this microphone is that much of the -- the -- the angst you saw out there over the -- the summer months on health care, certainly a portion of that was concerned about the legislations, what we brought to the House and Senate.

But I would argue that a great deal more of that is the uneasiness that the American people are feeling now. They're concerned about a war or wars that seem to have no end. They're concerned about job loss and the overall state of the economy.

What was nearly the collapse of our economy, as I think history will show, the steps that were taken late last year and early this year to bolster the economy, will be recognized, I think, as something that needed to be done. But that certainly has underscored the angst that the American people are feeling. We're hearing as well as members of Congress both on the Democratic and the Republican side of the aisle, but we need to address some of those issues and move forward as a nation.

I believe very strongly that the precursor to war is a number of things. One is we have a problem with the nation. The first thing we do is we -- we say to that leader or that country, "We're going to withdraw our ambassador and our diplomatic core from your country." And the next thing we do is we ask -- if that doesn't work and doesn't get them talking to us or seeing our way, we get our friends. We say, "Listen, you know, we have a problem. We need you to pull back your

ambassadors." You know -- and some agree to do, some don't.

And then we say to that country, you know what, we, the United States, are not going to trade with you anymore. We're not going to have that economic relationship. And when that doesn't work, we ask our friends to do the same thing. And then when that doesn't work, we put in embargo around them. We -- we stop free flow of trade and -- which is the precursor to bombing those countries, right, if you take it to the next degree.

Isn't the opposite -- must be true as well though; that if you want to encourage positive growth and relationships with countries that if we want to move from a military engagement, the ultimate outcome is to have a relationship whereby we have ultimately diplomatic relations, but that we have that economic back and forth as well.

So I think that trade is and ought to be a part of America's soft power and opening up ourselves to engaging with the rest of the world, but we have a lot of work to do here at home. I often say you know I have difficulty because I'm a very pro-labor Democrat. I believe very strongly in the rights of workers and I believe that in order to have jobs that can be unionized, you have to have jobs to begin with. But what I find difficult is that many of those advocates leading the charge against free trade are my friends, friends while I'm having this conversation with as well -- longshoremen, for instance, or the teamsters or the machinists.

The last time I checked, it was the longshoremen who put cargo on and take cargo off of ships. It is teamsters who take that cargo and deliver it to different parts of the country. And when airplanes and ships and buses or -- or -- or trucks break down, it's the machinists who fix those -- those properties, but they are some of the most leading advocates against a foreign trade policy for the United States.

So I recognize we have work to do even here within our own internal country that we have to address and it's not to turn the tide on to show the benefits of why it's important that we engage the world in -- in free trade. I also -- just -- I'll just touch upon the three FTAs that are before us still.

We have the Panamanian Free Trade Agreement, we have the Columbia Free Trade Agreement and the Korean Free Trade Agreement. Let me go back in reverse order. For -- for New York City, again, the Korean Free Trade Agreement is probably the gold standard as -- as it retains

to services and I think that my city would benefit tremendously in terms of the financial services sector with that free trade agreement.

I know the concerns that still are out there dealing with, to a lesser degree, beef, but maybe more so with automobiles. I think one of the things we have to do as a nation is to begin to build automobiles that other countries demand. We don't have that right now the countries of demanding our autos. That's another discussion for another time, another place maybe. But I do think that something does need to be worked out. One thing I know that the Korean people understand is face saving.

We have the chairman of the Finance Committee in the Senate who comes from my wife's home state of Montana. My wife's family are cattle ranchers. So I understand what's important to his constituency. And in the state of Michigan, from Detroit, the chair of the Trade Subcommittee and the House of Representatives Ways and Means Committee, Sandy Levin, is from Detroit. So I think there has to be some give and take there.

I -- I do think it's in the national interest of the United States to move on the Columbia Free Trade Agreement as well as the Panamanian Free Trade Agreement and I hope that at some point the administration will also focus on that -- and I think for a number of reasons. I won't go into right now, but for a number of reasons including the advancements that Uribe has made in terms of Columbia specifically. I think the Panamanian Free Trade Agreement is almost -- is close to a no brainer as we possibly can get at this point in time, but the Columbia one is a more difficult one.

I think that steps have been taken. I think that impunity has been diminished. I personally believe it's not tolerated within this particular Colombian government. I don't know if Uribe -- President Uribe has done a good enough job of expressing that. Impunity exists everywhere in the world. It exists in New York City. When one person gets a ticket and the other person doesn't get a ticket for the exact same thing because his or her brother is a police officer, that's a form of impunity, right?

We -- there's a certain amount that's acceptable within our society. When people are being murdered overseas, and particularly in this case in Columbia, and there's not the reaction that we have in the United States when a -- a capital case of murder is committed where they fully prosecute to the full extent of the law or it seems as though, that's not the case.

There are different standards of tolerance or intolerance in this case for impunity. I think Uribe has gone through great lengths to address those issues. And it's an ongoing -- an ongoing issue, but I think that it's in the interest of the United States to further that relationship and to reward that type of behavior.

And I would also suggest on the pure merits of the legislation, they already have about 90 percent duty-free quarter -- quarter free access to the United States. We don't have that reciprocation with Columbia which would -- I think would be -- mean a lot to our manufacturing sector here as well.

And just lastly, I'll just mention on China. I had dinner last night with Mr. Lee, who is in the -- one -- one of the top 20 members of the Chinese government today and it's believed -- widely believed that in the next -- within the next decade, he'll be one of the top five Chinese leaders. We had a great discussion about a -- a -- a number of issues.

I bring this up because I co-chair -- actually, I chair the -- the exchange between the People's Congress and the House of Representatives and we'll be making a trip to China at some point hopefully between now and the end of the year. I know the president is actually planning a trip at some point before the end of the year, as well.

I say that because I brought up last night at that meeting the issue of Section 421 and I know that's probably been an issue of discussion for many of you as well. I wrote the president. I spoke to people in his cabinet and I -- I -- I believe that it was important that they act on 421 and you may say why. Because, one, 421 was added to the PNTR on legislation to garner additional Democratic support for the bill and that bill passed because of Democratic support.

On top of that, if they failed to move on that I think would've sent the wrong message not only to the domestic politics here and those who are responsible, primarily unions that were responsible for bringing that suit in the first place, but would send a very bad message to Democrats who may very well be supportive of free trade agreements moving forward if they believed that even under this administration they would not enforce the agreements that were made in prior administrations.

So I believe very strongly that they needed to send that message. And in order to begin a broader discussion on free trade that, message had to be sent. So I think you have to look at that in a more

positive way if you've been looking at it negatively. I actually think that we would benefit by the president in evoking Section 421 for the future of free trade agreements going forward and not pushing off and pushing back on possible support for agreements in the future.

So with that, once again, I want to thank you for having me here today. Bob, did I cover most of the things?

BRADY: Not all of it.

CROWLEY: Not all, but enough? I'll leave the rest to Kevin. But to -- let you know that we are working very strongly in the House Democratic Caucus, and we're working and talking to the administration and to -- and to Ambassador Kirk about the need to move forward on free trade.

I know he's anxious as well within the White House. We have a couple of issues. We have health care. We have reg reform. We have a number of issues that -- that are before us that kind of have prevented us from getting onto the broader agenda, but I do believe knowing how tenacious Ambassador Kirk is, he doesn't take things lying down is my -- I -- I -- I suspect and he's ready and -- and willing and able, I think, to -- to move on this issue within the White House and we'll be there to support him in the House Democratic Caucus.

So thank you all and thank you, Kevin, again, for sharing the stage with me.

(APPLAUSE)

BRADY: Yes, sir. Well, thank you for that kind introduction. I'm kidding. Thanks -- I came in a little late. First, I want to thank Bill. Thanks for your leadership and invitation to be here and introduction I'd be remiss if I didn't thank MetLife has been an absolute leader in when it comes to companies talking to their own employees about the importance of trade and accessing markets overseas and I think that we're going to change the tenor of trade discussions in this country, more companies are going to have to be talking to more of their workers about it and we really appreciate MetLife's leadership in this crucial area.

I'd like to thank Bob Vastine for the offer to come speak today. I'm honored to be here, but looking at the agenda, this is truly a who's who of thought leaders in -- in governments, in business, in global institutions, academia. Going through the -- the agenda last night, I wish I would've been attending most of these panels because

you really have not only key people, but key issues.

And so, Bob, thanks for your leadership at this summit.

Joe Crowley, it's a delight to work with Joe, but he's not just a thought leader, he's an action leader on the Hill. We need more people like him. He takes these issues very seriously and he's in a Democratic caucus and he has to fight a bit uphill on, but he's willing to do that and we need those type of leaders. So Joe just left, but tell him I said good things about him.

I should say too the Services Caucus, which we co-chair, is now on its third year. We're making real progress. I think the membership of it is very important. There are very few places in Congress today where you have a broad range of members from all regions in the country who are -- who are strongly in support of the services sector in making sure we're looking for new opportunities -- including in our trade agreements -- to move services forward.

So -- and especially now in the 111th Congress, we're continuing to add to the membership of the -- of the caucus and I think that says good things about the importance of services in the country. If ag and manufacturing are the muscle of the U.S. economy, then services is the central nervous system. Services are important in their own right to be sure, but they're also a means to end. They link. Like the brain and the spine, they are always a vital link to virtually all other sectors of the economy and this is one of the points we try to make to other members of Congress.

We have a strong ag industry. We have a strong manufacturing industry. Services makes them both better and makes them both better not just here at home, but as they seek to access new markets around the world. For example, the express delivery sector facilitates the success of manufacturers and other -- all other sectors of the U.S. and global economies. Similarly, electronic payment providers facilitate every day transactions and hold up the retail sector again here and as we export outside. Despite our heavy reliance on services, services has been playing catch-up a bit in the trade policy.

It was first the world's trade new nation signed the GATT in 1947, but the U.S. Department of Commerce didn't even track or compile statistics on U.S. Trade and Services until 1986. Even though services has come somewhat late to the effort, the fact that it is arriving now in, I think, the past three or four years, Bob, underscores its importance overall and it's rising, I think, rising

knowledge that this is an area critical of the United States, I think critical to the world, where developing countries can enhance themselves, seek new opportunities and we can facilitate ag and manufacturing whether it's Doha or any other agreement, as well.

The U.S., we're blessed. We have a very large services market, largest in the world, one of the world's largest services powerhouses. We are the largest exporter of services, 14 percent of global cross-border commercial services export, which is that the number two country, U.K., beat by quite a ways. Among the world's top 10 exporters and importers of commercial services, the U.S. recorded the largest trade surplus of all of them, \$144 billion last year.

Our commercial presence and sales abroad for America has been on the rise in a big way. According to the Commerce Department from 1986 through 1995, our U.S. cross-border services exports exceeded sales by U.S. home foreign affiliates by an annual margin for approximately 18 percent, but since then it's become -- it -- it's changed. The service sales of our companies overseas have overtaken our cross-border transactions back from 2006. Foreign affiliate sales of U.S. firms nearly doubled those made on the cross-border basis.

So that presence abroad is resulting in sales of U.S. products and I think the best news here is that those increase sales haven't come at the expense of growth in our cross-border transactions. In fact, they've -- we've experienced double-digit growth from 2002 through last year. I think investment protections and our bilateral investment treaties and our trade agreements allow our service companies to sell American. As we all know, it's not enough to buy American. We need to sell American throughout the world.

In addition, U.S. education and health care service companies investing in developing countries helps to reduce poverty, increase living standards and ultimately create new markets for all U.S. exporters and without a doubt think liberalization of foreign investment rules and increased protection for foreign investors abroad have been of immeasurable value not only to the host country, but also to the American services country who set up those shops.

American investment abroad makes American services, companies and their employees stronger. The picture though for the United States is not entirely rosy. Europe, as a whole, accounts for more than half of the world services exports, more than three times the U.S. value. And even in the services sector, our output and competitiveness can continue to improve. Clearly, the services sector demands are focused as is the topic for this -- for this summit.

The key question is what can we do to help create jobs in those areas. You'd have to start first, obviously, with Doha. Since the Doha Round began, 2001 U.S. trade surplus and services has increased by 124 percent.

Some would say, "Well, that's enough. Why not lock in what you have? Why do you need the result on services and Doha?" Well, let me give you a political answer in the -- in the economic one, as well. A political answer is that we need it if we going to sell Doha in its ultimate completion. Service sector jobs account for the largest share of employment in every congressional district.

Services jobs account for the largest employment sector in every congressional district in Congress. If we're going to push this deal across the line, there will have to be new market access opportunities in our key services sectors. It's just that simple. The economic answer is that we are an economy. Our economy services are pervasive. To not open up trade and services through Doha would be a missed opportunity of massive proportions. This is what CSI has been saying at every turn in every capital around the world. And I think it's a message that has to be understood and should be, I think, accepted and braced by ministers who are negotiating with this on Doha.

Services are a huge part of this round. In New Delhi, the ministers agreed to reengage in services. Last week, negotiators just finished a cluster of meetings. Geneva will have another cluster in November where capital based officials will -- will return for stock taking of what has transpired in the 14 months since the underwhelming so (inaudible) signalling conference. So we need new and robust focus on services in this round and I would urge -- I know Ambassador Kirk spoke to you yesterday. He talked about the positive aspect of services. And we are encouraging him to focus on it, Joe and I and a number of other members of Congress as you are, and I would urge his minister counterparts from across the globe to focus on it, as well.

I really think the success of this Doha Round depends on services. It -- it just does. I'm not a trade negotiator, but I'll make one observation. Within the context in negotiation services can raise everyone's boats. China and India rank as the world's seventh and ninth largest service exports respectively. They have offensive interests in new services market access. I believe this as a peace negotiation is a potential game changer for the entire round and I think he, again, to -- to selling here in the U.S.

Joe Crowley talked about our pending free trade agreements which

have to be done. Obviously, South Korea is a huge market for services. Yes, we do have some challenges there, but -- but nothing that can't be overcome. And -- and, of course, we're watching other countries cut free trade agreements with Korea as we sit here today. But it's important to -- to know that the Korea-U.S. trade agreement contains a provision that would allow the U.S. to benefit from any trade concession South Korea makes to its other free trading partners. And it is important, I think, that we not be left on the sidelines as other co-agreements, other country's co-agreements, to cut us out.

So it's not just benching ourself. This doesn't take us off the field while the game continues. It doesn't leave us where we're at. We go backwards in competitiveness. We -- we lose ground in which is a key reason we need to be on that field shaping that game at every opportunity we get and the least we could do is pass Colombia, Panama and Korea to send a signal: We're not just talking about free trade in the open markets in this -- in this world, but we are acting upon free trade leading in this area because if you're following on trade, you're losing -- you're losing and this country has the capability to -- to -- to lead. And when it comes to economic stimulus, when it comes to real jobs, trade is where our bread and butter is.

It's not just the current key part of our economy. It's the feature of the U.S. economy and we not -- ought not hesitate one day to move forward both not just on Doha, but Colombia, Panama and -- and South Korea.

I'll close with this before I get on a rant on trade because I was getting close there -- feeling "amen" coming out of Bob. So you know I (inaudible) get nervous. Focusing on services, the title of this closing luncheon, there are two ways to focusing on something. You can focus on something by paying more attention to it or sometimes just by adjusting the focus on your camera. In that case, you haven't necessarily expended more energy, but by focusing, the image and view becomes clearer and crisper.

These are two very different exercises, but the title of the program is so apt because both exercises are completely appropriate when it comes to our approach to U.S. international trade and services.

Yes, we have to expend much more energy and attention to services such as in Doha, but outside of Doha, we have to adjust our lens so the benefit's already in the viewfinder like those that would accrue to American service providers through implementation of our pending free trade agreements come into better focus and finally we have to

make sure the more members of Congress are aware of the importance of services liberalization for our economy.

Thank you for having me here today. And Bob, Bill, if you'd like me to stop and take questions, I certainly can do that. I don't want to take too much time. Thank you.

TOPPETTA: Are there any questions for the congressman?

BRADY: And I just want easy questions too, by the way. So if you're thinking of hammering me, do it another lunch.

TOPPETTA: You may have answered every question they have, congressman.

BRADY: And we've stunned them into submission. Here's a familiar face.

QUESTION: Fools rush in where angels fear to tread. The (inaudible) is how do we get your colleagues into -- into Congress to the point beyond the 61 members or two members of the caucus to understand that services are the under -- underpinning of this economy and the global economy and that more than ever our future globally rests upon services and investment -- foreign investment and -- and that we are building unbeknownst to most -- to many, many people the global digital economy? If that's not enough, I'll...

BRADY: Yes, I -- yes, I know. You know, I should think one, CSI has made great progress in the last few years of raising the profile of services. I still think, and this may be -- sound very corny, but -- but I am convinced we win most arguments at home when we can point to local jobs that are being traded through services. You know, I -- I, in addition to talking to -- to -- to companies about talking to their workers, what I often advise them is look, we appreciate the fly-ins to Washington because having CEOs and leaders face to face with members of Congress is -- is key.

There's no substitute for it, but you ought to implement that. You ought to maximize that by following up with a drive over -- a driver over to that local congressman's office with your company and some workers or a couple of companies and some workers who can talk about services in their district because it is -- I mean, most members have been surprised to learn what a big role services plays today -- what it will in the future.

I think they're surprised to learn that a average salary is

\$55,000. You can raise a family on -- on -- on those salaries. And I think the more education we do, the better. I also think it's been helpful for CSI and services. You've been out there again at these global summits and minister's meetings raising that profile. That gets reported back as well. So I think the answer is, "do more of what you're doing" because I think it's exactly on the right track, but add that local compliment to it because I think that's where we can sell.

Joe Crowley got involved not just because of services and he wants to sell more products, but because it's important to New York and I think it's important we do as many of those drive-overs along with our fly-ins and our -- and our education efforts.

I think that's how we sell it, but -- and the good news is a lot of services that -- that is involved in this room today representing this room today are the types of companies and -- and industry that members of Congress want to grow.

I don't think you have a big sales job. There, the fundamentals are already laid, help and show them how to do it and especially identifying those services markets where we fit up very nicely with it you know which are great opportunities for us. I think all that helps.

So you're -- you're doing -- what this group is doing has exactly the right strategy. I -- I just want -- Joe and I just want to help you turn that volume up.

Yes, sir.

QUESTION: Thank you very much. My name is Daniel Crosby. I'm a trade lawyer based in Geneva. And we -- we've heard a lot at this conference whenever the Indians speak. For example, they -- they say, Well, we hear the message about opening markets, but our interests aren't all the same in -- in services and -- and the Indians are saying their interest is in sending their people to come work in the United States and to other countries.

Is there a way that you see in -- in -- in Congress that we can maybe not open our markets, but make some kind of commitment to maintain the flow of -- of workers in way that satisfies them to break that particular log jam in the negotiations?

BRADY: You know, it is a sensitive issue, but yes, I believe it can. I was encouraged by Ambassador Schwab and the USTR talking about

exploring it, consulting with Congress about it. It is a bit sensitive, but I think it ought to be in some sense divorced from some of the more sensitive immigration issues and really is -- is a case for the U.S. as well the ability to send those people along with those products and services to help us sell American.

I keep coming back to that, but I want to sell more American products and services in every corner of the world and -- and again, while sensitive, yes, I think there is a way to address that issue. I think it needs to be wrapped into an agreement that creates new opportunities, obviously, as something that can be sold here, but yes, yes, I do.

TOPPETTA: Anymore questions?

BRADY: Thank you again. This is a great summit. Thanks for having me.

TOPPETTA: Ladies and gentlemen, will you please welcome back to the podium our president, Mr. Bob Vastine.

VASTINE: Thank you. You're very nice, everybody. I'm here to say thanks. That's all I'm going to say, but there are lots of people to thanks. Thank you all for your commitment to our cause and to your -- and for your participation in this. This is an astounding thing.

Usually after a day and a half of this, people want to just go home, but you guys are here. It is such a compliment and we so appreciate it.

Thanks, of course, to Joe Crowley and Kevin Brady. They've been just invaluable and the rest of the team there. Thanks to Chairman Bill -- our new chairman, Bill Toppetta, for signing on and to our former chairman, Mike Ducker for all that he did for CSI.

Thanks to the sponsors -- the corporate sponsors and others, our partners, all of whom have contributed to make this possible and the thanks especially to the planning committee, Ralph Carter, Fran (ph), our colleague, Selena Jackson, Steve Stewart, Paul Delaney and others. I don't want to leave anybody out, but it's a long list.

Thank you for the rappateurs and thank you, Linda Schmidt, for being the chief rappateur. Where's Linda? Right there. Thank you. Thanks -- thanks to the Global Services Coalition and our -- and our former -- and our foreign guests. I particularly want to single out (inaudible) Falconer from having come all the way from New Zealand to

participate in this and -- and -- and Dawn Stefansson (ph) for having come all the way from Toronto.

You know, it happened to be he came here for Thanksgiving dinner, but that's OK. He made double purpose of it.

I want to thank the -- the George Mason volunteers. We've had an amazing team of 20 or so -- graduate students from George Mason. I want to thank the -- the WITA, World International Trade and Organization for -- and especially James Wilkinson for his team of volunteers. There he is -- thank you.

And for -- for the young trade professionals that have organized themselves that they -- that James has organized, couldn't do it without them. I want to thank especially John Goyer (ph) and Eric Choy (ph). Right back there.

So yes, finally, do -- Christine Bliss? There she is. Stand up.

So it sort of all started with Christine and Peter. And I said, "Christine, how are going to get this thing going?" She said, "Go talk to Peter Kelley," and that got it going. Peter, thank you so very much for your help.

So that's it. Oh, I have to thank Jane Drake-Brockman. Where's Jane Drake-Brockman? Do you want to do this? Let's not do it. We found -- OK. Come on.

We have a -- we have a -- a -- a closing comment. Oddly -- very oddly, but only thanks to Jane Brockman -- Jane Drake-Brockman's energy and the participation of Paul Delaney and -- and -- and Shirley Ann George from Canada and dozens of others -- well, for at least 15 others representing members of the Global Services Coalition, Peter Bartlett, McCredie -- Andrew McCredie, we've come forward at the end of this with a communique.

Jane, doesn't get to read the whole thing. She's got a minute to do the highlights.

DRAKE-BROCKMAN: Just kidding.

VASTINE: I want to say that Jane -- Jane founded the Australian Services Roundtable and is now working in Hong Kong with the Coalition Service Industries of Hong Kong.

Jane?

DRAKE-BROCKMAN: I'm allowed to read it all and yet every single word belongs to someone in the room, but the coalition consisting of the Australian Services Roundtable, Barbados Services Coalition, Canadian Services Coalition, European Services for CSI, Hong Kong CSI, Japan Services Network, NASCOM, Taiwan Coalition of Services Industry and International Financial Services London jointly have signed on to this. I'm just going to read four sentences.

"An unprecedented gathering about 400 services, business -- businesses, government and other leaders from all over the world took place in Washington over the last two days. We call on our governments to draw in the energy of the G-20 to overcome difficulties and speed progress in the WTO. G-20 leaders provided a forceful lead in Pittsburgh in September.

We urge our governments to reengage with a commensurate sense of urgency exploring all options to boost confidence and move forward together on all three market access pillars towards a settlement that will achieve positive growth in world trade. Many of the tasks ahead on services will be ongoing beyond the successful conclusion of the Doha Round. We therefore call on our governments to commit themselves to work closely with us, to explore creative new approaches including building a critical mass of support for a new generation of services negotiations which combine regulatory trade reform as well as trade and investment liberalization. This was a historic gathering in Washington."

VASTINE: Thank you, Jane. And thank you all. This is the end. Thank you.

END