



# 2004 AAAS Forum on Science & Technology Policy

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**TIA**  
Telecommunications  
Industry  
Association

**CEA**  
Consumer  
Electronics  
Association

**ECA**  
Electronic Components,  
Assemblies & Materials  
Association

**EIA**  
Electronic Industries Alliance

**GEIA**  
Government Electronics  
& Information  
Technology Association

**JEDEC**  
Solid State and  
Semiconductor  
Technology

**iSTEP**  
National Science  
& Technology  
Education Partnership

----- Connecting the Industries That Define the Digital Age -----

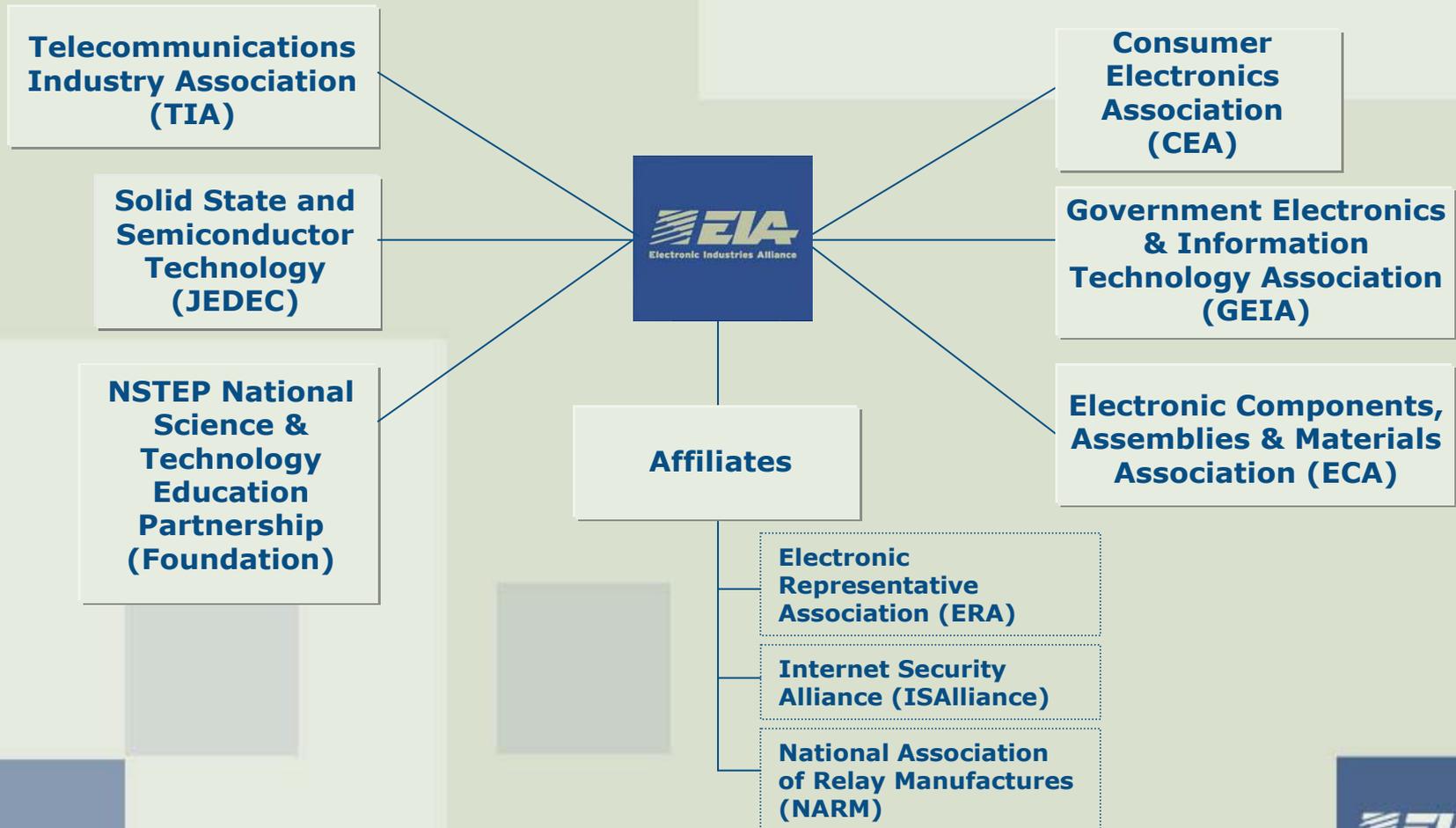


- **2,500 members**
- **Broad spectrum, from consumer electronics and telecom equipment to defense and semiconductors**
- **Unique alliance structure**



# Electronic Industries Alliance

“The Whole is Greater Than the Sum of the Individual Parts”



# The U.S. Innovation Economy

- In the past, developing nations followed the U.S.'s lead in encouraging investment and fostering technological innovation. Now those same nations aspire to lead.
- U.S. needs an infrastructure designed to stay in front of the innovation curve.
- We must create an environment that ensures 'the next big thing' is developed here and brings a new wave of high-skill jobs for U.S. workers.

# The U.S. Innovation Economy

- For years, U.S. workers have relied on a formula: *education and high skills + technology = high wages*  
That formula is being challenged today.
- It is vital that we strive to keep the 'new' economic blueprint for emerging technology the same as the old: we invent it and we perfect it, while routine or commoditized manufacturing occurs where it can be done most efficiently.
- Structural changes in the U.S. economy, including technological improvements and increased productivity, have raised the bar for workers in all fields, and the training system must reflect those changes.

# The U.S. Innovation Economy

- EIA and our industry leadership believes the US needs an innovation and technology vision and strategy.
- Does “vision” or “strategy” = “policy”? No, we are talking about an industrial policy. We do, however, call for leadership from the top.
- Policy prescriptions needed to ensure the future of the U.S. technology industry and the innovation economy cannot exist in a vacuum. Where is the taxonomy of R&D, technology and investments in support the innovation system?

# **“The Technology Industry at an Innovation Crossroads”: A Policy Playbook**

- With staff from our sector partners, corporate members and outside experts, EIA has developed a legislative and regulatory playbook for policymakers.
  - Introduction of publication on May 5, Capitol Hill
- Key elements of playbook based on unique Prosperity Game™ and follow-up working groups.
- Other sources of recommendation development:
  - Hill and Administration meetings
  - executive surveys
  - forum series sponsored with New America Foundation
  - coalition participation



# Key Areas of Policy Recommendations

- U.S. business environment
  - Corporate tax policy
  - Regulatory burdens – federal and state
  - Broadband infrastructure
- International trade and business environment
  - Enforcement of agreements and IP rights
  - Security vs. flow of trade
- Research & development policy and investment
- K-12 math and science education
- Visa and immigration policy reform
- Workforce training – “from K through grey”

# Preserving the U.S. Advantage: What Can Policymakers Do?

- Ensure federal R&D funding supports basic research and long-term innovation system
- Enforce trade agreements and IP rights, and work to eliminate non-tariff trade barriers
- Encourage continual job training and skills upgrading by U.S. employers
- Expand, revamp and rename TAA to reflect structural changes and remove stigma from world trade
- Simplify tax and regulatory regimes to make U.S. more business friendly and encourage FDI

