



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
ENTERPRISE AND INDUSTRY DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

Director-General

Brussels, **30 JUL. 2008**
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Dear Mr Harald,

My fellow Director-General, Jörgen Holmquist and I would like to thank you for your letter of 3 July 2008 explaining the Expert Group's proposals to improve the legal and regulatory environment for electronic invoicing.

We welcome the Expert Group's wish to take advantage of the opportunity presented by the Commission's upcoming review of the relevant VAT legislation by making further proposals to remove legal barriers to the uptake of e-invoicing in the EU. We very much look forward to receiving your finalised proposals, including the 'EEI Model Agreement' to which you already refer, by the start of September 2008. We are convinced that a high-quality text that reflects the interests of a broad range of stakeholders could form the core of a significant initiative to transform the prospects for e-invoicing, especially between companies in different Member States, across the EU.

The Expert Group has clearly made significant progress since the beginning of 2008. We would expect that if the existing performance is maintained, the Expert Group will fulfil expectations by delivering a first class proposal for an Electronic Invoicing Framework by the end of 2009.

May I take this opportunity to wish you every success in the challenging task which lies ahead.

Yours sincerely,



Helmut Zourek

cc: Jörgen Holmquist, Director General, Internal Market and Services DG