

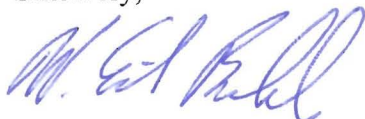
August 2, 2002

John Nienstedt  
Competitive Edge Research and Communication, Inc.  
2170 Fourth Avenue  
San Diego, CA 92101

Dear John,

On behalf of the San Diego Regional Economic Development Corporation, I wanted to express our appreciation for the outstanding polling work Competitive Edge did for our organization. We felt extremely well served during all phases of the project - from your development of a survey which directly addressed the research questions critical to achieving our goals, through the field work, to the final analysis and presentation of the data. We particularly found the firm's use of path and regression tools tremendously useful in helping us understand which variables were the most critical in shaping public opinion. I would strongly recommend your firm to others.

Sincerely,



W. Erik Bruvold  
Vice President, Infrastructure Issues  
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