For Immediate Release

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## USACM Statement on President Obama's Comments on Privacy and Computing Security

*Below is a statement from USACM regarding comments by the President of the United States.*

The President's State of the Union address provides an important opportunity to focus on critical privacy and computing security questions facing the nation.  The Association for Computing Machinery's US Public Policy Council (USACM) believes that not only is privacy important, it is also something we do not need to reduce to enhance security.

While current events have led some to frame the discussion as a tradeoff of privacy in the name of security, USACM's extensive experience shows that in the majority of cases, effective security for business and enterprise systems can be accomplished without sacrificing individual privacy. Shortcuts that require unnecessary privacy tradeoffs should be avoided to preserve both transparency and consumer trust.

Effective privacy and security policies need to be developed proactively by both business and government because effective data privacy policies and practices can provide benefits to consumers and commercial interests alike.


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