



Updates Regarding the War on Counterfeit Components

For immediate release - Wednesday, June 29, 2011

On March 9th, 2011, Senators Levin and McCain, the Chairs of the Senate Armed Services Committee, initiated an investigation into counterfeit components in the Department of Defense's supply chain. The full text of this announcement can be found [here](#). This singular event has brought the issue of counterfeit components into the limelight.

Since this announcement there have been several very public events which include a scathing interview on CNN with Senator Brown (watch the [video here](#)) and the dispatch of a delegation from the Senate Armed Services Committee who were refused access to Shenzhen by China (more details available [here](#)).

While this issue is beginning to get the media and political coverage it deserves, there is still a lot of work to be done by industry and governments to stop this problem. One possible solution is to eliminate the raw materials used by the counterfeiters by restricting the flow of E-Waste to China and Northern Africa. Currently the United States, Haiti, and Afghanistan are the only countries who have not signed the [Basel Convention](#) on the handling of hazardous and E-Waste. This would be a start.

In May of 2011, IDEA announced the release of IDEA-STD-1010B which is a major revision to the initial standard release dated 2006. The B revision includes provisions for inspection by component package, guidance on advanced inspection techniques, and provisions for managing test service providers. Please visit the [Oxygen Electronics blog](#) to see how the use of this standard and advanced inspection techniques prevented the escapement of a counterfeit component supplied to Oxygen Electronics.

PRESS RELEASE
U.S. Senate Committee on Armed Services
 Carl Levin, Chairman
 McCain/Cain Ranking Member

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
 March 9, 2011
 Contact:
 Tim Ashington (Levin) 202-228-5683
 Brooke Buchanan (McCain) 202-224-2235

Senate Armed Services Committee Announces Investigation Into Counterfeit Electronic Parts in DOD Supply Chain

WASHINGTON – Following a statement by Senators Carl Levin (D-Mich.) and John McCain (R-Ariz.), chairman and ranking member of the Senate Committee on Armed Services, today the committee's investigation into counterfeit parts in the DoD supply chain.

"The Senate Armed Services Committee has initiated an investigation into counterfeit electronic parts in the Department of Defense's supply chain. Counterfeit electronic parts put at risk our national security, the reliability of our weapons systems and the safety of our military men and women. The proliferation of counterfeit goods also damages our economy and cost American jobs. The presence of counterfeit electronic parts in the Defense Department's supply chain is a growing problem that government and industry share a common interest in solving. Over the course of our investigation, the Committee looks forward to the cooperation of the Department of Defense and the defense industry to help us determine the source and extent of this problem and identify possible remedies, for it."

The Washington Times
 Senators Want China to assist probe of counterfeit weapons parts
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By [Bill Gertz](#)

The Washington Times
 3:14 p.m., Tuesday, June 14, 2011

China's government is refusing to assist Senate investigation probing Chinese firms that use as counterfeit parts that have been found in high-tech U.S. weapons systems, the leaders of the U.S. Armed Services Committee said Tuesday.

Committee Chairman Carl Levin, Michigan Democrat, and Sen. John McCain, Arizona Republican, said yesterday that a panel investigation revealed that U.S. defense contractors and government agencies traced the sources of some fake defense parts to Shenzhen, in Guangdong province in Hong Kong.

China has rejected requests for the committee staff to visit Shenzhen as part of the probe. Mr. Levin said, noting that investigations are ongoing with U.S. officials in Hong Kong to seek help.

Developing Story
SEN. SHERROD BROWN
 (D-Ohio)

Watch SEN. SHERROD BROWN's interview [here](#) | [Watch full story](#) | [Watch full story](#)

Fake parts in U.S. military

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Oxygen France
 Oxygen Electronics SA
 1350 Avenue Albert Einstein
 3400 Montpellier
 FRANCE
Phone: +33-(0)4-99-64-24-14
Fax: +33-(0)4-89-83-02-22

Oxygen New York
 Oxygen Electronics LLC
 56 Lafayette Ave.
 White Plains, NY 10603
 USA
Phone: +1-914-289-0202
Fax: +1-914-289-0222

Oxygen UK
 Oxygen UK
 23/24 High Street
 Marlborough, Wiltshire
 SN8 1LW
Phone: +44-1672-519202
Fax: +44-1672-511177

<http://www.o2xygen.com>