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The Right Honourable
Ing. Andrej Babiš
Prime Minister of the Czech Republic
The Office of the Government of the Czech Republic

Dear Prime Minister,

On behalf of the tobacco companies Philip Morris ČR a.s., British American Tobacco, Japan Tobacco International and Imperial Tobacco, we would like to forward you our sincere gratitude regarding the approach of the State Printing Works of Securities, the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Agriculture for the implementation of the Track and Trace system in the Czech Republic.

This project was extremely demanding and had a fixed deadline of May 20, 2019. The proactive approach of the State Printing Works of Securities during the final project stages proved essential. The Czech Republic became the first among all other EU countries to issue the necessary codes, notwithstanding the time delay incurred from the EU Commission. Thanks to this, no suspension of production occurred and therefore no loss in consumption tax.

Unfortunately, many EU member countries did not manage to arrange their code issuing within the expected timeframe, thus threatening our production in factories based in these EU countries, with full repercussions to us. Thanks to the State Printing Works of Securities, which temporarily replaced the code issuers in the countries that failed to meet the required deadline, this scenario had been avoided and the European Track and Trace system became fully functional for the effective date of commencement.

We are very pleased that this project showcased the excellent cooperation between the business and public sectors during a time when such complex implementations were being put into effect.

Most respectfully,

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Committee Member and Head of Internal Relations, Philip Morris ČR a.s.

Jiří Hauptman
Head of Internal Relations and Communication, JT International spol. s.r.o.

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