



June 26, 2001

Dear National Semiconductor Customer:

National Semiconductor has become aware that some customers may be "upscreening" or "retesting" semiconductor components. Upscreening components can be potentially dangerous to the end user. Using components in applications or environments, for which they were not intended, can lead to component or system failure. For example, products specified to operate in office environments should not be expected to function properly or reliably in an application that is subject to more extreme conditions.

National offers a wide variety of component solutions designed to meet today's numerous application and environmental conditions. We produce products that are designed and manufactured to perform reliably in applications ranging from office desktop PCs to radiation sensitive satellites. We strongly encourage component users to work closely with their suppliers and demand devices that are specifically designed and tested for use in the intended application and environment. Where such devices do not exist in the National portfolio, we will be happy to consider a custom solution to meet your program needs.

National products are designed to be used only within the electrical and environmental limits published in their respective data sheets. National does not authorize the use of any of its products beyond the published data sheet limits. Electrical and/or environmental testing of parts after shipment from National may cause damage or result in latent reliability problems. Such electrical and/or environmental testing or use of National products outside the published data sheet limits voids all National warranties.

National Semiconductor will not be responsible for any component or system failure due to the inappropriate use of its products.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Thomas A. Freeze'.

Thomas A. Freeze  
Vice President / General Manager  
Enhanced Solutions  
National Semiconductor Corporation