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December 12, 2005

Rashid Nurgaliev
Minister of Internal Affairs, Russian Federation
Ul. Zhitnaia, 16
117049 Moscow, Russia

Dear Mr. Nurgaliev:

Vox traces its heritage back to when the legendary Beatles and Rolling Stones put our amplifiers on the map as they changed the direction of popular music in the 1960s. We now hear that our celebrated tone—in large part dependent on vacuum tubes—could be at stake.

An article in last week's *Moscow Times* was forwarded to me by a colleague at *Guitarist U.K.* Magazine. It mentioned that our tube supplier, New Sensor Corporation, is involved in a conflict with their ExpoPUL factory in Saratov, Russia. The piece alleges that a firm called Russian Business Estate is vying for the ExpoPUL building and will stop at nothing to get it.

This would be quite detrimental to Vox and other global music companies that rely on ExpoPUL's quality tubes, which are vital to music technology and undoubtedly the best of their kind available. I wonder if RBE's "entertainment projects," mentioned in the article, could be more important than the jobs of 830 workers producing a universally respected Russian-made commodity not readily available in the global market that brings music universally to everyone.

I presume that your office may already be investigating these circumstances. Please know that we at Vox Amplification would be at your service if you have any questions for us.

With warm regards,

Steve Grindrod
Managing Director
Vox Amplification LTD