HSMP Team Work Permits (UK) Moorfield, W5 Sheffield S1 4PQ

Wesley Villa, 20 The Breach Devizes Wiltshire SN10 5BJ

20th January 2004

Dear Sirs,

## Mr Scott Lafferty

I have known Scott for over 13 years. I first met him when I was based out in Singapore when he was promoting and demonstrating Info Express data acquisition and imaging products to various survey companies in Australasia and South East Asia. I was the Regional Geophysics manager for a worldwide offshore survey company called Geodetic and we were extremely impressed with his unrivalled imaging software and its applications in our commercial geophysical surveys. Scott, as president of Info Express Inc had just successfully completed the initial phase of a very large multimillion contract with the Australian Navy providing mine counter measures sonar and imaging data acquisition (SIDA) systems to the navy. Geodetic then subsequently awarded Info Express several projects over the next 2 - 3 years including various clients including Shell and Total plus two very large projects, namely Woodside in Western Australia and ONGC pipeline inspection, offshore India.

My involvement with Geodetic ended in 1994 and company had been taken over by Fugro and I commenced working as managing director with another worldwide geoscience company called SAGE based in Bath. At Sage, again we saw the potential benefits and opportunities of Scott's unique and cutting edge software which allowed Sage to bid and carry out work that other companies struggled to meet the client's requirements. The advantages of Info Express products as well as their speed and high capacity to allow efficient handling of huge amounts of imaging data is that the software can be modified by Scott to meet specific and unusual requirements. Over the next 6 years, SAGE regularly contracted Scott to provide unique data management solutions and carried out several challenging and high specification survey projects including a very large 6 month project involving mapping Belgian rivers to a 'never achieved before' accuracy and resolution.

In November 2000, Sage was then bought out by Racal Survey who then in turn was rebranded as Thales GeoSolutions. This led to change in management culture and strategy which decreased need for innovative solutions, and uncertainty of system requirements increased with culmination in Nov 2003 of the takeover of Thales Geosolutions by its main competitor Fugro. These changes in company's management and philosophy has therefore led to Scott not being awarded as much work as he would normally have done during this recent experience but his software capability remains as leading edge and as applicable as ever.

The offshore survey industry is now going through a very uncertain period with ongoing integration and re-organisation of Thales Geosolutions and Fugro companies but there is now a private agreement in place for a new survey company to be formed by 31st March 2004 and part of the strategy of this new company will be to provide innovative and cutting edge solutions to client's requirements and it is without doubt

that Scott Lafferty with his exceptional talents and proven capabilities will be invaluable to meet the aims of this new company.

Scott has the advantage of having experience of working with a wide range of clients throughout the world and he is internationally recognised as an expert in his field and highly respected at trade shows and conferences.

I would be pleased to answer any questions or provide any further information and can be contacted on tel 01380 722486 or e-mail <a href="mailto:bakerm@nildram.co.uk">bakerm@nildram.co.uk</a>.

Yours faithfully

M.E. Baker