

March 25, 2012

Dear Suetsugu-san,

As you may or may not know, I was “retired” from MTS last summer. I have waited the requisite time required before contacting any old business relationships and now I would like to inform you that I have formed a consultant firm to support the seismic industry. I am currently living in the Philippines and am therefore closer to the large Asian seismic market. The new company – Far East Controls is, of course, very small. I do not know if MHI will allow you to use such a small consultant firm. I hope that we can do business sometime as I think it can be quite beneficial to both of us. I have included a rate structure that I think you will find acceptable. At this time, I have only 2 of us – myself and Jim Langseth. Jim used to do all of the software for the transfer function compensation product called STEX III. Because Terry Nelson and Hugh Sparks are also no longer with MTS, I can tell you that MTS no longer has the means to support the NIED system. I am in contact with both of them and could get some support if need be. Only Brad Thoen is left now at MTS. No one there now really knows much about the NIED servovalves or control system.

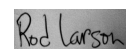
Of particular note is the fact that I will answer e-mails free of charge. You should know that I will gladly answer all reasonable requests about information past, present, and future. MTS management no longer has control over what I say or do.

I do know that NIED wanted to upgrade their GUI PCs to Windows 7 and update their PowerPC hardware. I am assuming that this upgrade has already been accomplished. I am hoping that MTS has truly represented the pros and cons of such a move. Also, I know that NIED wants to investigate disabling some of their actuators so they can reproduce the Tohoku earthquake. This seems like a reasonable thing to do; however, my recent experience last year at NTT-Tokyo might be of great interest to you. MTS tried to do something quite similar there for other purposes. I do not want to take your time now to discuss that work unless you are really interested in it. I will be glad to explain our attempts in great detail if you wish. Some “outside-the-box” thinking might be the best solution.

I am also pleased to hear that Brad might actually implement the mode switch that NIED has been asking to get for about 8 years. What concerns me about this is the fact that Brad has probably forgotten about some crucial information that would affect the transfer from being “bumpless”. Again, as a matter of good faith, I would be glad to donate that information to you without regard to remuneration.

Thank you for your time. I hope that we can work again in the future.

Sincerely yours,



Digitally signed by Rod Larson
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Date: 2012.03.26 07:57:45 -0500

Far East Controls