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Jerusalem, 3<sup>rd</sup> November, 2008

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To: The International Journal of Speech, Language and the Law  
Equinox Publishing Ltd  
Unit Six, The Village  
101 Amies Street  
London SW11 2JW  
England

WITHOUT PREJUDICE

BY EMAIL AND POST

Dear Sirs

Re: "Charlatany in forensic speech science: A problem to be taken seriously"

We act for Mr Amir Liberman and Nemesysco Ltd. (together the **Clients**).

It has been brought to our Clients' attention that the above-titled article (the **Article**) was authored by Messrs Anders Eriksson and Francisco Lacerda (the **Authors**) and published in England & Wales on pages 169-193 of Vol 14, No 2 (2007) of the International Journal of Speech, Language and the Law (the **Journal**), in or around December, 2007. As far as we are aware, you are the Journal's publisher (based on <http://www.equinoxjournals.com/ojs/index.php/IJSL/index>).

The Article is seriously defamatory both of Mr Liberman and of Nemesysco Ltd., and the defamations are likely to have (if they have not already had) a serious negative effect on their reputation and business.

The alleged defamations may be boiled down essentially to the following:

1. Our Clients' technology does not work and cannot work and is therefore arbitrary and consequently worthless, contrary to our Clients' claims with regard to it. This allegation is presented in various ways and pervades the Article.
2. Our Clients are liars and charlatans (definition from *Chambers online*: "someone posing as an expert in some profession"). This is occasionally conveyed by use of sarcasm, giving the further implication (insofar as this is not already conveyed in the term "charlatan") that the Clients are acting in bad faith by commercialising technology which they know does not work.
3. In addition, our Clients are irresponsible and perhaps even reckless in allowing their technology to be used at all, and in particular at Domodedovo Airport, Moscow.

While it might be usual to provide examples from the Article demonstrating the said defamations, we refrain from doing so on the basis that no person acting in good faith could seriously argue that the article is not openly defamatory in the above ways – starting from its title.

Given the above, our Clients are giving serious thought – to the extent of taking English counsel's advice – to issuing a claim for defamation.

In addition, our Clients are dismayed at and surprised by the Authors' and, by association, the Journal's journalistic methods. Firstly, inasmuch as neither of them was approached at any time by either of the Authors or the Journal for assistance with regard to the Article and/or comment on its conclusions. Secondly, in that the Authors tested the Technology based on a reconstruction rather than the Technology itself. Thirdly, insofar as the Authors seem to have started – indeed this is quite plain from the Article – with the assumption that the Technology is worthless and then sought to support their preconception. Indeed, our Clients may have been less unfavourably disposed towards the defamations (not that this would make them any less defamatory) if they had felt that the Authors had ever seriously entertained the possibility of any conclusion other than the one they reached.

As will be clear, our Clients are highly aggrieved over this defamatory Article and have only reluctantly instructed us to write this letter rather than a 'letter before action' (which precedes a defamation action), thus giving you the opportunity to publish an apology and retraction at this early stage. In the absence of your positive reply by 14<sup>th</sup> November, our Clients will have no choice but to further consider their position. In the meantime, all of the Clients' rights are fully reserved and nothing in this letter should or may be construed or interpreted as exhausting or derogating from any rights our Clients may have, as an admission of any fact or as a waiver of any claim.

Yours faithfully,

*E. S. Shimron, I. Molho, Persky & Co.*

**Messrs E.S. Shimron, I. Molho, Persky & Co.**