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Graz, 2009-07-20

To whom it may concern!

Since more than a dozen years now my research group and later my Institute for Inorganic Chemistry and the Faculty of Technical Chemistry, Chemical Engineering and Biotechnology of the Graz University of Technology have long and successful collaboration with the Czech Academy of Science and here with the Department of Analytical Chemistry as part of the Institute of Chemical Process Fundamentals. Although only a limited number of publications from this collaboration are on the way so far, the research of the LC-NMR Group of Jan Sykora (former Jan Schraml) is essentially for our work. Especially our industrial research collaborations with companies such as BASF or Siemens respectively are not thinkable without the scientific support of the LC-NMR Group in Prague.

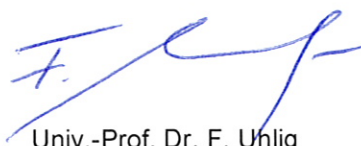
Despite our own collaboration the LC-NMR Group at the Czech Academy of Sciences is well known and more important well respected within the Silicon Community worldwide as well as within the all the groups dealing with advanced and applied problems of NMR spectroscopy.

Therefore I was deeply concerned since I learned about the budget cutting plans of the Czech Republic for the Academy of Sciences. Especially in these days of a worldwide financial crisis cutting budgets for research means at the end shortening future effects of research applications for example. A growing economy is in general impossible without strong activities in science and research.

I'm convinced that the further development of the Academy of Sciences is in the best interest of the Czech Republic as well as of the international research community. I strongly urge the government of the Czech Republic to reconsider the planned budget cuttings and to keep the funding for the Academy of Sciences at a level that will make further developments possible.

If you have any questions about the above-mentioned facts and the scientific standing of the LC-NMR Group on the Academy of Sciences please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely Yours



Univ.-Prof. Dr. F. Uhlig