



David E. Miller  
PRESIDENT

April 5, 2006

Val Kogan, President  
Mid-Atlantic – Russia Business Council (MARBC)

Dear Mr. Kogan:

I am writing to welcome you and the Russian delegates to BIO 2006, to Chicago, and to Illinois. We are deeply grateful for your group's participation in this international event.

The Chicago conference represents a repositioning of the biosciences for the future. In the past, biotechnology was seen as an "industry". In the future, it will be seen, not as an industry, but rather as a powerful set of tools which can be applied to many industries in the medical, agricultural, industrial and environmental realms. These are all industries in which the Midwest US – and Russia—are very strong, and we expect to lead the next phases of bioscience commercial development.

I hope that you and your delegation will visit the Illinois Pavilion, which will feature this diversity of effort in numerous displays. We will also host visiting dignitaries, lectures by leading scientists, high-technology exhibits. Finally, on Tuesday from 5:00 PM -6:30 PM we will enjoy a reception with Chicago-style refreshments and live blues music.

I also wish your group great success in its upcoming 4<sup>th</sup> Semi-Annual Biotechnological Russian-American Innovation Technology Week to be held in Philadelphia and Chicago. I am confident that the collaboration of so many learned scientists and capable business people will yield great results.

In the meantime, thanks again for your participation in BIO 2006 Chicago!

Best regards,