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January 10, 2012

David Kappos  
Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property  
And Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 223 13-1450

Dear Director Kappos,

On behalf of VLST Corporation I am writing to express our strong support for the establishment of a satellite office in Seattle.

Seattle would be an ideal location for a PTO satellite office. The Puget Sound is home to a number of leading Biotechnology companies — including Amgen, Seattle Genetics and Dendreon as well as many other world renowned research organizations such as the University of Washington and the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center.

Seattle is an emerging global biotechnology center and the hub of biotechnology activity in the Puget Sound region. The Pacific Northwest is ranked 5th in the nation for biotechnology industry concentration. Approximately 7,600 people work for 55 companies in Seattle's biotechnology industry sector. As a result the Seattle area is also home to some of the heaviest users of the Patent and Trademark Office. As a customer of the PTO, we believe that having a satellite office in the Puget Sound region would bring significant benefits for the Office and for applicants like VLST Corporation. The increased feasibility of early interviews that come from having access to examiners locally will — in our view — produce significant benefits in terms of decreased pendency, increased efficiency, and higher quality, core goals that are shared by both the Office and applicants.

The Seattle area would be an ideal site for a PTO satellite office, and it is our hope that you will seriously consider Seattle as the decision-making process moves forward.

If you have any questions, or would like any additional information about VLST Corporation or our company's Intellectual Property Group and its efforts, I would be happy to discuss any of these topics in more detail at your convenience.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Martin A. Simonetti". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Martin Simonetti  
CEO & President  
VLST Corporation