

**1) How long has your business been in Moscow?**

We started our science office in October 2005. However, General Motors has had contacts with Russian researchers since the early '90s.

**2) What is the best thing about investing in Moscow?**

Research and development projects are a very specific form of investment. They mostly look to the future, without expecting an immediate commercial benefit.

I would like to point out that we work not only in Moscow, but also with a number of universities and research institutes that are located in northwest and central Russia, as well as in Siberia. Modern Russian scientific institutions are a continuation of Soviet heritage. Soviet science developed independently from the rest of the world.

So on the one hand, scientists are not integrated into global commercialization processes, but on the other hand it's a great opportunity to obtain some unique results; these lead to interesting solutions and potential for promising technologies to be discovered.

**3) Why it is now the time to invest?**

At the moment there are a lot of very interesting developments in the field of military defense, [It's a great time] to integrate this technology into civil applications.

**4) Has the economic crisis had an impact on your company in Moscow?**

Our science office in Moscow exists as part of the global GM R&D. Of course we are affected by the global situation. Also, we can really feel the changes in the economy, due to the specific nature of the crisis in Russia.

**5) What do you think will happen in the future?**

The focus will shift onto businesses. Budget spending, and meeting goals will be a much bigger priority in Russia.