

340 Commercial Street, Manchester, New Hampshire, United States, 03101

October 24, 2024

Mr. Peter Theodorides President and CEO Vision Global Exhibitions & Events Solutions Athens, Greece

Dear Peter,

Thank you and your team for the wonderful support of the *FIRST* Global Challenge 2024 in Athens, Greece 26-29 September 2024. As you now realize, the *FIRST* Global Challenge has few comparisons to any other event other than perhaps the Olympics given that 191 nations participated in this event. The *FIRST* Global Challenge has been described as the "Innovation Olympics" as a single team from each nation on the planet is invited to create innovative solutions to the world's most pressing challenges. This year the topic of Sustainable Food Systems challenged teams to design and build prototype food systems and also compete with the team-designed robot in a robotics game themed on food production and global access to food supplies.

From an event perspective, the *FIRST* Global Challenge is an event that is extremely demanding from the support perspective given that each nation is provided with a dedicated and professionally decorated work area that allows the "united nations" to work together as they collaborate, exchange ideas, and help each other be successful. Since the goal of *FIRST* Global is inspiration, such collaboration was greatly assisted thanks to your team's work. Vision took on every challenge with professionalism, identifying several possible solutions and then doing whatever was necessary to implement the best solution. Among the challenges were ensuring the fit of 190 exhibition booths in one area, producing accurate signage that allowed participants to move as easily as possible, and lastly, designing and implementing meal service for over 1,500 people each day.

As we conducted this event in nearly every available room in the 40-year-old Peace and Friendship Stadium, there were many issues to address. Time and time again, Vision responded to create the best possible environment for the students. You and your team created a safe, clean, comfortable, and effective work site for the world to come together. Your work provided an effective workplace for the world to collaborate and cooperate. There is hope for the future. I was extremely impressed with your direct involvement in the event where you led the charge to investigate issues and create solutions. Vision and *FIRST* Global worked side by side on every issue — a partnership that sets the model for future *FIRST* Global events.

Thank you for the tremendous support provided by Vision to make the 2024 FIRST Global Challenge a great success.

With all best wishes,

Umet Wilsyh

Vincent Wilczynski

Acting Executive Director, FIRST Global