**CONFERENCE SPEECH**

**FOR**

**STEVEN TROUT**

Hello everyone. I am Steven Trout and my partner, Aurelio Odis Lee and I want to express our gratitude to all of you for showing interest in our proposal. Thank you for giving us some time to share our thoughts and define our intentions with regard to the process of building up and preserving your very special country. We are in a position to work with you in guiding you and supporting structural renewal by providing the wherewithal to preserve the beauty and cultural significance of your fascinating, historical, jewel of a country. (**If there is anyone in particular you would like to acknowledge, do that here**). We would like to take a moment to acknowledge\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and to thank you for your hospitality and helping hand as we organized and coordinated this very important meeting.

So much has been said about the vibrancy of the Cuban culture and the extraordinary opportunity to be able to live in, or at least have a glimpse into a past life... a world filled with color, unparalleled artistry, and a palpable love for your heritage. Your country’s past history, and in particular, Havana’s, has been described variously as, “one of the wealthiest cities in Latin America,” “frozen gloriously in time,” “Havana is one of the most beautiful cities of all time....stubbornly graceful... a city where anything might happen.” “The future is here, but the past is everywhere. The buildings, the cars, the gears of the whole system are largely stuck in time.”

That’s the good news.... and the bad news... Cuba stands on the brink of modernization. Tourism is one of the biggest industries and so modernity threatens to conquer the charm of an environment that took years of love and attention to build and nurture.... but those beloved structures are getting old... the patina of antiquity is fascinating, but the building? They’re crumbling... they need to be renewed and reinforced for future generations of proud Cubans to boast of their legacy.... The large conglomerates may say they will come in and “save the day,” but they won’t. They will attempt to promote their own agenda... What the people of Cuba need is the respectful, professional, considered technology and support of a company that will come in, respect the environment, and really work with you to rebuild and strengthen your own living structures from the inside out.

Due to the embargo, there has been very little funding to restore or build new infrastructure in Cuba. Repairs that have been performed have largely been “cosmetic” and have had little effect in actually restoring or prolonging infrastructure. This is because there has been a lack of proper equipment, technology and knowledge to perform permanent repairs that can arrest corrosion and provide a structural contribution to concrete segments. Repairs have been performed primarily with plaster and paint for aesthetics. Those were earnest but inadequate attempts to extend the structure’s life function, ultimately, providing very little benefit if any at all, and each attempt has depleted resources. Failure to install epoxy injection benefits has allowed steel reinforcing in concrete segments to corrode, causing concrete to spall, exposing skeletal elements and requiring more reinforcing. This deterioration of steel, which gives a concrete member its structural integrity, is significantly compromised by the cancer of corrosion.

That’s where Lily Corporation, Lincoln Company, and Cuba Infrastructure Restoration enter the picture. We have spent years working on a technology whereby the process of epoxy injection strengthens the core structural soundness of the buildings that provide space your homes, your schools, your businesses, your government, and most of all, your legacy.

Aurelio and I care and my family cares about Cuba. We care about the beauty, the history, and we really care about the importance of restoring the infrastructure and prolonging historically and socially significant buildings so that they stand as totems and testaments, honoring the past and informing the future of Cuba. We also care about the well being of you, its people. We are not here to take care of you or take advantage of you. Nor are we here to fix you. We are not here to fix your infrastructure. We did not come here to rebuild your country for you. And we are not going to rebuild your country. **YOU** are going to rebuild your country. We are here to propose a plan.... to provide the tools, the training, the technology, the equipment, the products to rebuild and restore your country and we need your help.

We propose that the training will take an unskilled construction laborer and give him the skills, experience and knowledge comparable to that of the most skilled of American labor. This is 2018 technology that we have developed...there is no further advanced technology in the world. Our team and I will teach you to use it, understand it, and appreciate the benefits of the work that will be done. It is important that you... the engineers, architects, managers... the first line of contact. let your department heads and government officials know of the importance of this technology and how it can be best used...where and how it aligns with your long term purpose will be helpful in understanding how to most effectively support the regeneration of the structures and the overall critical importance to each respective industry.

Aurelio and I are honored to have this opportunity and we intend that you share our vision. We look forward to working with you and discussing any considerations and answering any questions you may have, as we begin planning together for a thriving, strengthened future for Cuba’s incredible culture. Thank you all.