



Now I am walking on water!

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Yes, that's right!

The Russians have just completed translating my latest book and they have called it "Bible 3 of surveillance".

I am thrilled to be invited to St Petersburg for the promotion of the Russian version of my latest book "CCTV - from light to pixels" in October.

This is a special event for me, in a wonderful city, with wonderful people. Going to Russia has always been a special event for me. Be that Moscow, or St Petersburg. If you haven't visited St Petersburg yet, I strongly recommend to put it on your bucket list.

The main sponsor and organiser of this is my good long term friend Murat Altuev, the CEO of Axxon. Murat discovered the first American edition of my book "CCTV" during an ISC show in Las Vegas in 1999. He then approached me and asked if I would agree to have my book translated into Russian, as he could foresee that the Russian industry would need such reference material.

I was thrilled and, of course, I agreed.

The very first book launch was at the MIPS (Moscow IP Security) Show in 2003 at the Olympic Stadium in Moscow. This is the largest Russian security show. I was taken by surprise to see huge posters around the venue with my face on it, promoting my book; an amazing feeling which can not be described by words only. I was given special privilege and attention as a VIP, representing the Australian CCTV industry and I felt honoured. This first book launch was then followed up by a second book launch in 2006 of the second edition.

Now, here we are, in 2017 and I am packing my bags for the proposed launch of the third edition, in St. Petersburg in October.

I have a very interesting history with Russian books.

During my electronic studies in Macedonia, when it was then a part of Yugoslavia, my diploma work was on CCD chips. At the time, not many people knew about the CCD technology, so I had to apply extra effort to source material to study and prepare my thesis. In the days when there was no Internet, I was limited to using books. I managed to save my student pocket money and ordered one book by Barbe & Campana "Solid State Imaging" from the US. This cost over \$60! I had spent all my six-months savings on just one book. Yet, I needed more material to complete the diploma work. I discovered that the Russians were translating American scientific works, and that these Russians books were much cheaper; so I ordered a few.

There was one problem. I didn't speak nor read Russian.

Luckily, the Macedonian language like Russian uses the Cyrillic alphabet. In actual fact, two Macedonian brothers, Cyril and Methodij, invented the Cyrillic alphabet in the 10-th Century. This helped my studies.

Using the Macedonian - Russian dictionary I slogged away and began to expand my learning of CCDs. Consequently, I achieved the highest score for my thesis presentation. I was over the Moon.

Therefore, it is a special thrill to explain to the Russians, that my foundations in understanding solid state technology came from reading Russian books.

Isn't it funny how things go full circle? The Russians have some very advanced IP CCTV products and I am proud to know that my books are a part of their success, as their books were for me.

So, I am very excited to visit St. Petersburg in October, catch up with old friends, make new friends and discuss the latest technology in the IP CCTV industry.

There is no money that can replace or buy such satisfaction for an author.