



## A LETTER FROM ASPEN PITTMAN

Dear Groove Tubes Customer, Associate, and Friend,

As you may have already heard, FMIC (Fender Musical Instrument Company) has acquired certain assets from Groove Tubes. Fender's announcement speaks for itself and I stand behind every word.

Now that this has been formally announced, I wanted to personally assure you that the future of GT is more promising than ever. For example:

1. GT's management staff remains and I'm still involved in the business.
2. GT's tube catalog of products remains so please order whatever you like as always!
3. GT's audio catalog of products remains, and FYI, our new SuPRE was just nominated for yet another TEC award (don't forget to vote in the Mix August issue!).
4. GT's dealers and warranty services will continue to serve you as our #1 priority, expect to be respected.
5. GT's prices stay the same (but as always, are subject to change with the times).
6. GT's OEM services business supplying tubes to numerous amp companies ranging from Ampeg to Victoria (and of course, FENDER!) will continue.

Lastly on a personal note, I'd like to share the reasons behind my decision to sell GT after 30+ years. Simply put, I needed more time for myself and my family. I also needed to lower my stress levels and enjoy the remaining years God may allow me. Maybe I'll start up a band again!

I've been in this exciting Music Industry 40+ years, starting as a floor salesman at Guitar Center Hollywood back in 1967. I started GT in 1978 and it's constantly grown for 30+ years. It's been a blast and a blessing, but that growth required 12 hour days and 6 day weeks for as long as I can remember. GT now requires ever more personal time and resources than I have the ability to supply.

So I wanted to partner GT with a company that has the resources, infrastructure, talent and culture to take what I've started to even greater levels. Like many of you, Fender has been a part my life since high school. They were the biggest chapter in my Tube Amp Book, now over 110,000 copies in print. And Fender has been GT's valued customer and trusted partner for many years. So they were my first and obvious choice to carry on the GT legacy. The FMIC team was understanding, supportive and generous throughout the acquisition process, which was a comfort and blessing for my wife Sigi and myself. I have seen so many nightmares over the years, when small companies are sold to larger ones, but this was dream sequence by comparison. Furthermore, my friends at Fender have graciously invited me to participate in GT's next exciting chapter, and I sincerely hope you will join me. Frankly spoken, it can't happen without you!

Thank you for your love and support for all these many years!

God Bless,

Aspen Pittman

Groove Tubes

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