



NEWS RELEASE

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Energy Systems Network gains four new Board members *Leading global, regional and start-up renewable energy organizations support the Indianapolis-based clean technologies initiative*

(SNOWMASS, Col., June 27, 2011) Energy Systems Network (ESN), the industry-driven initiative focused on clean technologies and energy innovation, has elected four new members to its Board of Directors: **John Bear**, President & CEO of Midwest ISO (MISO); **Eizo Kobayashi**, Chairman of the Board at ITOCHU Corporation; **Norio Sasaki**, President & CEO of Toshiba Corporation; and **Reuben Munger**, Chairman & CEO of Bright Automotive have all joined the ESN Board. The majority of these were inducted after the most recent Board meeting on June 17th at the residence of Board Director Amory Lovins, Rocky Mountain Institute Co-Founder, Chairman & Chief Scientist.

The ESN's new Board members show the growing interest in the Indiana-based initiative's efforts across the energy ecosystem, representing two Global 200 corporations, an innovative start-up firm and a regional electricity transmission provider. All share a common interest in the commercialization of new energy technologies; ESN's portfolio of projects currently includes initiatives in electric vehicle development and deployment, smart grid and independent micro-grid storage systems, and advanced battery technologies.

"ESN is pleased to welcome these exceptional leaders to our ESN Board of Directors," said ESN Board Chairman Thomas Snyder, President of Ivy Tech Community College. "They bring valuable and varied perspectives and a network of relationships that stretches across the globe. We're very fortunate to have them join our effort to bring new energy innovations to market."

"We're fortunate to have a very active Board of Directors, and the organizations represented by these directors are involved in a wide range of ESN efforts," added Paul Mitchell, ESN President & CEO. "All will participate in our Project Plug-IN electric vehicle deployment initiative, while Toshiba, ITOCHU and MISO will also contribute to our smart grid, battery technology and grid storage projects. Bright Automotive will provide invaluable expertise in fleet electrification and vehicle-to-grid technology development. We look forward to starting or continuing productive engagements with all."

Bear has more than 20 years of executive leadership in the utility industry and is a strong proponent of market transparency and efficiency. As CEO he is leading MISO's efforts to serve its customers through

reliable market operations that meet the region's energy resource needs while fostering innovation in the exploration of the region's demand response and energy efficiency capabilities.

Kobayashi was nominated as a Board Director in March 2011, though ITOCHU Corporation has had a representative on ESN's Board since 2010. Kobayashi joined ITOCHU in 1972, and has held numerous senior positions during his four-decade tenure with the company. He was named Chairman of the Board in April 2010, after serving as President and CEO since 2004. He currently serves on the board of Japan Smart Community Alliance, a public-private collaborative alliance with over 623 members. He has also served as a Director of Nippon Venture Capital and Nissin Foods Holdings Co., Ltd.

Sasaki has been with Toshiba Corporation since 1972, with positions in nuclear energy systems, industrial power systems, and ultimately corporate executive positions including his current role as President & CEO.

Munger is founder and Managing Partner of Vision Ridge Partners, a cleantech investment firm with a portfolio of green building, breakthrough solar, and advanced automotive companies. He also serves as Chair of the Governing Board of Edvestors, Chairman of the Massachusetts Advisory Board of Stand for Children and a Trustee of the Rocky Mountain Institute, another ESN partner.

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ORGANIZATIONAL PROFILES:

About MISO: *The MISO is an independent, nonprofit organization that supports the reliable delivery of electricity in 13 US states and the Canadian province of Manitoba. This responsibility is carried out by ensuring the reliable operations of the region's interconnected high voltage power lines that support the transmission of more than 100,000 MW of energy in the Midwest, by administering one of the world's largest energy markets, and by looking ahead to identify improvements to the wholesale bulk electric infrastructure that will best meet the growing demand for power in an efficient and effective manner. The organization is headquartered in Carmel, Indiana with operations centers in Carmel and St. Paul, Minnesota.*

About ITOCHU Corporation: *With approximately 150 offices in 74 countries, ITOCHU Corporation engages in trading and import/export of various products such as textile, machinery, information and communications technology, aerospace, electronics, energy, metals, minerals, chemicals, forest products, general merchandise, food, finance, realty, insurance, and logistics services, as well as business investment in Japan and beyond. ITOCHU Corporation has been diversifying its renewable energy portfolio, and is a strategic equity partner of leading lithium-ion battery manufacturer, Ener1 (NASDAQ: HEV) and EV manufacturer, THINK.*

About Bright Automotive: *Bright Automotive is an American company comprised of automotive entrepreneurs, including some of the most experienced hybrid-electric vehicle and battery pack engineers*

in the industry. They created in less than 12 months what some automotive companies take years to achieve: an all-new, efficient, plug-in hybrid electric vehicle that customers want to buy and can afford.

About Toshiba Corporation: *Toshiba is a world-class innovator and industry leader active in three key domains: digital products, electronic devices & components and social infrastructure systems (power generation systems, transmission and distribution systems, medical systems, elevators and escalators, transportation systems, social automation systems).*

Toshiba aims to become one of the world's foremost eco-companies, committed to developing superior eco-technologies and eco-products. Toshiba is channeling resources to drive strong new businesses in such areas as innovative rechargeable batteries, fuel cells, solar photovoltaic systems, carbon dioxide capture and storage, smart grid power distribution, and new lighting systems. Toshiba is the inaugural chair company of JSCA (Japan Smart Community Alliance) which promotes the standardization and project creation of the smart grid and smart city projects in the world.

About Energy Systems Network: *The Energy Systems Network (ESN) an initiative of the Central Indiana Corporate Partnership. It is a non-profit industry-driven economic organization focused on the development of the energy technology "cleantech" sector. ESN provides project development and coordination for joint ventures and cooperative partnerships between network members to bring new energy technologies to market. ESN partners include a wide range of Fortune 500 firms, emerging technology companies, and research and educational institutions with expertise in advanced technology vehicles, distributed power generation, advanced biofuels, renewable energy, and energy efficiency.*