



## **Colorado Cleantech Industry Association Announces Inaugural Awards Celebration, With Keynote by Nation's Leading Cleantech Venture Capitalist Ira Ehrenpreis**

***The Colorado Cleantech Industry Association will hold its first "Colorado Cleantech Awards Celebration" Tuesday, October 19, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the Denver Marriott City Center. Ira Ehrenpreis, noted venture capitalist and cleantech industry expert, is the keynote speaker for the event, showcasing those companies and individuals who have made a significant impact on Colorado's cleantech industry during the past year.***

**Denver, CO - September 15, 2010** - The Colorado Cleantech Industry Association (CCIA) will hold its first "Colorado Cleantech Awards Celebration" Tuesday, October 19, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the Denver Marriott City Center. The announcement is made by Christine Shapard, Executive Director of the CCIA who says, "We're extremely pleased to welcome Ira Ehrenpreis, noted venture capitalist and cleantech industry expert, as our keynote speaker for the inaugural event. In concert with Mr. Ehrenpreis' presentation, we'll also be showcasing those companies and individuals who have made a significant impact on Colorado's cleantech industry this past year, based on job creation, capital raised and other demonstrated criteria."

Further, according to Shapard, "The CCIA luncheon is the one event where Colorado's cleantech community will come together to honor the creativity and dedication to our new energy economy put forth by entrepreneurs, educators, corporate innovators, volunteers and policymakers." Awards will be presented in multiple categories. Individuals are encouraged to nominate themselves, companies, colleagues, clients or vendors -- those who have made a major difference in Colorado's cleantech community. Nominations are open until Friday, September 17, 5 p.m. For more information, visit: <https://web.memberclicks.com/mc/quickForm/viewForm.do?orgId=ccia&formId=84863> .

Widely regarded as one of the most experienced cleantech investors, Mr. Ehrenpreis will deliver a keynote address covering "The State of the Cleantech Industry." As one of the pioneers in the cleantech sector, he'll share how the sector has evolved over the past decade and review the drivers behind cleantech's emergence as the fastest growing area of the venture asset class. Mr. Ehrenpreis will also review the challenges the industry faces and those issues notwithstanding, why he believes cleantech will continue to be a good bet in the years and decades to come.

Tickets may be purchased individually or as corporate tables: CCIA Member, Corporate Table - \$550; Non-Member, Corporate Table - \$700; CCIA Member, Individual Ticket - \$75; and Non-Member, Individual Ticket - \$90. Registration for the event is available online at <https://web.memberclicks.com/mc/quickForm/viewForm.do?orgId=ccia&formId=86597>.

### **About Ira Ehrenpreis**

Mr. Ehrenpreis has been with Palo Alto-based Technology Partners since 1996, leading the firm's Cleantech investment practice with investments in Energy Technology, Water Technology, and Advanced Materials opportunities. He is an investor in Colorado's Abound Solar, as well as in Tesla Motors. He is a recognized leader in both the venture capital industry and the Cleantech sector, and in 2007, was named one of the "Top 50 Most Influential Men Under 45" by Details Magazine.

In the venture community, Mr. Ehrenpreis serves on the Board of the National Venture Capital Association (NVCA) and on the Board of the Western Association of Venture Capitalists (WAVC). He is also the Co-Chairman of both the VCNetwork and the YVCA, two non-profit organizations comprising more than 1,000 venture capitalists.

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In the Cleantech sector, Mr. Ehrenpreis has served on several industry Boards, including the Clean-Tech Investor Summit (2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010 Conference Chairman), Cleantech Venture Network (Past Chairman of Advisory Board), ACORE (American Council on Renewable Energy), Energy Investors Forum (Past Conference Chairman), Energy Venture Fair, and California Climate Change Advisory Board. He has also served on the Advisory Boards of the Southern California Tech Coast Alliance, Forum for Women Entrepreneurs (FWE), and the Comerica Venture Capital Advisory Board. Ira is also an active leader at Stanford University, where his contributions have included helping to teach the course on Venture Capital and serving on the Board of Visitors of Stanford Law School. He is a Contributor to Nimmer on Copyright, the leading copyright treatise.

Mr. Ehrenpreis received his JD/MBA from Stanford Graduate School of Business and Stanford Law School, where he was an Associate Editor of Stanford Law Review. He holds a B.A. from the University of California, Los Angeles, graduating Phi Beta Kappa and Summa Cum Laude.

### **About Technology Partners**

Technology Partners is recognized as one of the pioneering venture firms focusing in Cleantech. Since its first investment in CellNet Data Systems in 1991 Technology Partners has achieved a leadership position investing in energy, water, and advanced-materials companies, such as Tesla Motors, CoalTek, and Nanogram. For more information, visit <http://www.technologypartners.com>

### **About the Colorado Cleantech Industry Association**

The Colorado Cleantech Industry Association represents the interests of the state's cleantech industry. Its mission is to further establish Colorado as a world leader in clean technology by providing representation and advocacy, a unified voice, relevant programming and capacity development. For more information, visit <http://www.coloradocleantech.com>.

#### **CCIA is found on these social media sites:**

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/COCleantech>

LinkedIn Group: <http://www.linkedin.com/e/vgh/1882455>

Facebook Fan Page: <http://www.facebook.com/ColoradoCleantechIndustryAssociation>

News Feed: <http://coloradocleantech.blogspot.com>

YouTube Channel: <http://www.youtube.com/COCleantech>

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#### **Contacts:**

Shelly Curtiss, CCIA Communications Director, 303-623-2690, [shelly@coloradocleantech.com](mailto:shelly@coloradocleantech.com)

Maggie Chamberlin Holben, Absolutely PR - <http://www.absolutelypr.com> - 303-984-9801, [maggie@absolutelypr.com](mailto:maggie@absolutelypr.com)