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Ninth Annual Cleantech Forum San Francisco Opens to Sold Out Audience

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San Francisco, CA (PRWEB) March 15, 2011

The ninth annual [Cleantech Forum San Francisco](#) kicked off yesterday evening at the Hyatt Regency San Francisco following opening remarks from Cleantech Group president Sheeraz Haji and executive chairman Nicholas Parker. The sold-out conference which runs through March 16 comprises more than 700 clean technology leaders representing 485 companies from over 25 countries and 35 states.

“Our theme for the Cleantech Forum San Francisco is the convergence of Cleantech and IT, a natural fit bringing the world’s clean technology leaders and uniting them in the Bay Area,” said Sheeraz Haji, CEO of Cleantech Group. “Across all categories of Cleantech, we are seeing an unprecedented increase in the ability to collect, analyze and respond to data. From smart grid to smart water, from building management systems to energy storage, it will be this intersection of technology and data that will allow clean technologies to deploy more rapidly across the globe and ramp up investment opportunities.”

[Cleantech Group](#) honored individuals and companies that inspire innovation and growth of the cleantech sector by presenting the annual Cleantech awards, the longest-running, most prestigious and coveted honors in cleantech.

Art Rosenfeld, the known genius of energy efficiency and former commissioner of the California Energy Commission, received the Lifetime Achievement in Cleantech Award for his

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and automation technology group, in recognition of the company’s investments in cleantech, its partnerships and work across cleantech sectors smart grid, transportation and energy efficiency. Cleantech Group presented the Entrepreneur of the Year Award to energy efficiency and Smart Grid software company OPOWER. OPOWER develops software and analytics to help utilities improve the consumer’s billing experience, identify opportunities for savings, and help people better understand energy use.

Forum Keynote speakers include some of the best known authors, investors and cleantech industry luminaries – Tom Steyer, co-managing partner, Farallon Capital Management LLC, John Denniston, partner, Kleiner Perkins Caufield & Byers, John Picard, author and founder, John Picard & Associates, Andrew DeGuire, vice president, strategy & acquisitions, Johnson Controls, Enrique Santacana, president and CEO, ABB Inc., Lisa Gansky, author, The Mesh,

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Elon Musk, chairman, product architect and CEO, Tesla Motors, Kal Patel, president Asia, enterprise EVP, Best Buy.

Hosted by Cleantech Group, the leading provider of business intelligence for companies and investors focusing on clean technology, Cleantech Forum is the longest-running and largest annual assembly of global leaders of the clean technology sector.

The Platinum sponsor of this year's forum is Autodesk. Gold sponsors include Carbon Trust, Foley & Lardner LLP, Hewlett-Packard, MaRS Discovery District and SAIL Venture Partners LP. Silver sponsors include Aderly, Babson College, Canadian Consulate, Citi Group, E2, Fraser, Milner Casgrain LLP, Greener Capital Partners, Grundfos Management A/S, Morrison & Foerster LLP, Sequoia Capital and Silicon Valley Bank.

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Media partners for the forum included, CleanTechies, Cleantech.org and OnGreen. Cleantech Forum San Francisco is sponsored by, ADERLY / ONLYLYON, Autodesk, Babson College, Canadian Consulate, Carbon Trust, Foley & Lardner LLP, Fraser Milner Casgrain LLP, Greener Capital, Grundfos, Hewlett-Packard, MaRS Discovery District, Morrison & Foerster LLP, Ontario Ministry of Research & Innovation, RealChange Network, Sail Venture Partners, Sequoia Capital, Sustainable Development Technology Canada and Winston & Strawn LLP.

About Cleantech Group

Cleantech Group is a leading global source of business intelligence for companies and investors focusing on cleantech. Cleantech Group pioneered the clean technology investment category in 2002 and its heritage provides a unique vantage point that enables deep industry insights. The company's worldwide network of investors, entrepreneurs, enterprises, service providers and others – representing more than \$3 trillion in assets – receive access to capital, investment deal flow, networking, market leading research and data, sales leads and promotional opportunities. Cleantech Group also provides strategic research and advisory services for large corporations and governments and helps them make smart business decisions by providing clear, actionable insights into clean technology and innovation. Cleantech Group publishes leading cleantech sector industry news coverage and produces the premier Cleantech Forum events worldwide. Details at <http://www.cleantech.com>.

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