



FIRST EVER AUTO FUTURETECH SUMMIT TO BE HELD IN VANCOUVER IN MARCH 2008

For Immediate Release:

Vancouver B.C. – The GLOBE Foundation is pleased to announce the inaugural Auto FutureTech Summit will be held in Vancouver British Columbia March 12 – 14, 2008. This is the first event of its kind bringing together an elite global gathering of representatives of the automotive and fuel sector's major stakeholders: OEMs, suppliers, financiers, oil and gas producers, electric utilities, labour unions, maintenance providers, insurance/reinsurance, agribusiness, civil society groups, and policy makers. This event will be staged in conjunction with GLOBE 2008 (www.globe2008.ca), North America's premier event on the business of the environment.

This event is the first time industry has come together on this magnitude to discuss the massive shift taking place in the automotive sector. Together parties will explore the key issues, challenges and opportunities confronting the global automotive industry over the coming decade.

Conference sessions will explore the emergence of **biofuels**, which has been a rapidly expanding sector in the past two years. Governments in North America, Europe and elsewhere have expressed support for the use of biofuels, while nearly all major auto manufacturers have flex-fuel vehicles available or plans to start production soon. **Electric Drive (Hybrids, Plug-in Hybrids, and Electric Vehicles)** will be a major focus of discussion as the world's largest carmakers have either signaled a wholesale move to hybrid gas-electric power, or more broad efforts toward the full electrification of the automobile. Once dubbed the "fuel of the future" **hydrogen** offers the prospect of abundant energy with only water vapour emissions. There have been a number of issues bringing this fuel to reality, in terms of powering commercially viable vehicles, but many manufacturers consider hybrid gas-electrics only to be a "bridge" technology to fuel cell vehicles. Each of these technologies has attracted billions in investment, and innovative companies are improving the environmental performance of vehicles while seeking to maintain economic competitiveness.

Confirmed Speakers for Auto FutureTech Summit 2008 include:

- **Feng An**, Executive Director, Innovation Centre for Energy and Transportation, China
- **Alan Lloyd**, President, International Council on Clean Transportation, Reno, NV, USA
- **Meneham Andermann**, Founder, Advanced Automotive Batteries, Oregon House, CA, USA
- **Malcolm Bricklin**, Founder & CEO, Visionary Vehicles, New York, USA

Auto FutureTech Summit 2008 is produced by the GLOBE Foundation, an international consultancy in the business of the environment. GLOBE's expertise lies in project management, event development, and management and consulting in the fields of environment and energy, urban development, and corporate responsibility. GLOBE is North America's longest operating producer of environmental events, having produced the GLOBE series since 1993.

For further information, visit www.autofuturetech.com

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An event organized by The GLOBE Foundation.

