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Welcome New Members

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Member Appreciation Social & Annual Meeting Huge Success!

On Thursday, October 25th over 75 people attended NHBSR's Member Appreciation Social and Annual Meeting at Wiggin & Nourie, P.A. in Manchester.

The event kicked off with a social hour at 5:00 pm where all attendees enjoyed delicious hors d'oeuvres, local beer and wine and live Irish music performed by the NHBSR Quartet. Attendees participated in a lively round of "Speed Networking," run by Alex Hausman, NHBSR Board Member and CSR Reporting Manager of Timberland. Everyone seemed to enjoy this activity and we hope to include it at more events!

Presentations began with a welcome address given by Meredith Cook, an attorney at Wiggin & Nourie, P.A. Jill Wurm, the Public Affairs Director at Verizon and NHBSR Board Co-Chair, looked back at the year in review, covering all of NHBSR's activities and accomplishments within the past twelve months. NHBSR Executive Director Molly Hodgson Smith followed with a promising forecast for NHBSR in the future, sharing her plans and goals for more NHBSR growth and expansion. Guest speaker, Quentin Keefe, President of Regency Mortgage Corporation, added to the evening's growing positive mood with his motivational speech, entitled "The Path Toward Social & Environmental Responsibility, A Journey not a Destination." In his speech, Keefe captured the importance of CSR within all types of businesses as a necessary, vital, and relatively painless component of sustainable business growth. Jim Hood, an attorney at Nixon Peabody LLP & NHBSR Board Member and Membership Committee Chair, wrapped things up with his closing remarks, pointing toward an optimistic future for NHBSR and commending all who helped make the event possible.

In addition to networking and socializing throughout the event, attendees also had the chance to enter to win numerous raffle prizes. Items included NHBSR hats and t-shirts, Comcast movie tickets, a leather bag donated by Timberland, Verizon golf accessories, and much more. Winners were announced at the end of the presentations.

Follow up survey results confirm the event's success with over 75% of attendees rating the event "excellent" overall. Special thanks to all who attended and to our sponsors; Cirtronics, Timberland, SilverTech and Wiggin & Nourie, P.A., who helped make the event possible.

To view a full slide show from the event, please go to <http://www.nhbsr.org/news-events/photo-video-library.asp>.

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NHBSR Spring Conference Plans Get Underway – November 6th

Any members interested in having a part in the creation of NHBSR's 5th Anniversary Spring Conference should attend the November 6th planning meeting from 4 pm to 6 pm at Public Service of New Hampshire's Energy Park, 780 North Commercial Street, Manchester.

This is an open meeting for members to come and share their ideas about the conference theme, breakout session topics, keynote speakers, exhibit opportunities, as well as discussion circle content and new initiatives. This is a great way to get involved in the future of this organization and to maximize the benefits of your membership. Your input is encouraged and valuable. Please RSVP to Executive Director, Molly Hodgson Smith at molly@nhbsr.org to confirm your attendance.

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2008 NHBSR Calendar of Events - Mark Your Calendars!

February 12, 2008	Breakfast with the Best Co Presented By: New Hampshire Businesses For Social Responsibility and Business New Hampshire Magazine
March "Go On Tour"	Monadnock Paper Mills, Inc.
May 15, 2008	New Hampshire Businesses for Social Responsibility's Annual Spring Conference
June "Go On Tour"	Jewett Construction Co., Inc.
September "Go On Tour"	Lamprey Brothers
October 23, 2008	New Hampshire Businesses for Social Responsibility's Member Appreciation Social & Annual Meeting
November "Go On Tour"	New England Wood Pellet LLC

Check the NHBSR website calendar for updates on dates & times!

www.nhbsr.org

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Opportunities & Events

Granite State Quality Council Examiner Training - November 9th

Granite State Quality Council (GSQC) Examiner Training is quickly approaching (November 9th, November 30th, and December 1st). This year, several options in how to approach this training as well as some scholarship opportunities are available. To find out more, contact info@gsqc.com or visit <http://www.gsqc.com>.

GSQC Examiner Training can:

- Enhance your ability to assess and improve management systems from a comprehensive and holistic perspective
- Help you build a network of colleagues with an interest in excellence and continuous improvement

- Provide expertise to improve your organization's competitive position
- Provide valuable training and experience for your career development and growth

The GSQC is a nonprofit organization with the mission to inspire and assist New Hampshire organizations in the achievement of performance excellence. Contact them at info@gsqc.com for more information.

"PR News" Accepting Entries For CSR Awards Program

PR News is calling for entries in the industry's only awards program honoring CSR communications excellence among corporations and their partners. The awards program represents the key benchmarks of an organization's overall success and reputation in the CSR arena. The entry deadline is November 16th, with the winners serving as the industry benchmark in CSR communications across a broad spectrum, from media relations to Green PR to overall leader in CSR practices.

The awards program, sponsored by CKPR and Georgetown University, is presented by the leading industry publication PR News. Winners of this year's program will be honored in early 2008 at the National Press Club in DC and featured in a special CSR Issue of PR News. The awards are open to all individuals and teams worldwide at for-profit and non-profit organizations. For more information and to enter submissions online, go to www.prnewsonline.com.

New Hampshire's Sustainable Energy Association Holds Home Energy Conference

On December 1, 2007, New Hampshire's Sustainable Energy Association will hold a Home Energy Conference from 8:30 am - 5:00 pm in the Robert Frost Hall on the campus of Southern New Hampshire University. For more information, go to <http://www.nhsea.org>.

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Member News and Notes

Antioch University New England Seeks Chair for Department of Organization & Management

The Department of Organization & Management at Antioch University New England invites applications for the position of Chair to begin July 1, 2008. Antioch University New England, located in the beautiful Monadnock Region of southwestern New Hampshire, is one among five campuses of Antioch University. Antioch New England provides values-based, practice-oriented education to more than 1,200 graduate students. Application deadline is November 14. For a complete description of the position, please visit <http://www.antiochne.edu/employment/chairom.cfm>.

Image 4 Accepted By Co-Operative America Business Network

Image 4 has been accepted as a certified member of the Co-Operative America Business Network. This well-respected national organization exists to promote ethical personal and economic interaction on the part of businesses in America. The adjudicated, referral based membership process calls for Image 4 passing a stringent evaluation of operations, products, attention to ethical, social and environmental concerns, and plans to address the same as a business operations methodology. For

more information, contact Jeffrey Baker at Image 4 at j.baker@image4.com.

Timberland Recognized by EPA For Going Green with Ease

Timberland was recently named one of the 17 national leading organizations by the EPA for taking voluntary steps to use and purchase green power. As part of their commitment to become carbon neutral by 2010, their strategies include an investment in green power, energy efficiency improvements, and the purchasing of wind-based renewable energy certificates (RECs). At their California distribution center, a 400 kilowatt on-site solar array produces approximately 60 percent of the facilities electricity needs. At every retail location Timberland communicates their green power commitment to customers by providing coupon brochures that also describe the benefits of wind power along with a web link for individual action. Store windows display stickers about their carbon neutral commitment and footwear packaging includes "nutritional information" detailing Timberland's green power promise.

Verizon to Be Inducted Into EPA's WasteWise Hall of Fame

Verizon Communications, a leading provider of broadband and innovative communications, will be inducted into the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency's WasteWise Hall of Fame on Nov. 14 in Washington, D.C. Over the years, Verizon has earned nine WasteWise Awards from the EPA for the company's successful waste-prevention and recycling programs.

WasteWise is a free, voluntary EPA program through which organizations eliminate costly municipal solid waste and select industrial wastes, benefiting their bottom line and the environment. Verizon has been a charter partner since 1994.

Verizon's waste-prevention and recycling efforts have helped the company realize more than \$10 million in waste prevention revenue and more than \$21 million in total recycling revenue. Verizon has also avoided approximately \$16 million in purchasing costs due to its waste prevention efforts.

Combined with Verizon's energy conservation program, these efforts result in reducing the amount of greenhouse-gas emissions by approximately 334,000 metric tons every year, which is about equivalent to 72,294 passenger cars not driven for one year or the annual power consumption of 42,875 households.

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Three Legs of NHBSR Stool – Community, Workplace and ENVIRONMENT

NHBSR's three primary content areas are community, workplace and the environment. This month's newsletter features several stories on environmental issues:

Clean, renewable energy coming to New Hampshire

After over two years of hard work by Environment New Hampshire and their allies, Governor Lynch signed into law the Renewable Energy Act of 2007 on May 11.

This landmark law will ensure that 23.8 percent of the state's electricity will come

from clean, renewable energy—such as wind, solar, clean biomass and small hydro-electric—by 2025. It also requires electric companies to include a minimum percentage of renewable energy in the electricity they sell.

This Clean Energy Standard will help cut pollution, as cleaner homegrown electricity begins to offset traditional fossil-fuel-based sources such as coal. A study out of the University of New Hampshire also projects the standard will help to create 1,100 full-time jobs and \$1 million in new state revenue annually in 2025.

To read more, visit <http://www.environmentnewhampshire.org/newsletters/fall07>.

Environment New Hampshire Interview with NHDES Commissioner Tom Burack

What are the most urgent environmental challenges facing New Hampshire?

Climate change and growth in the Granite State are our biggest challenges. We are already feeling significant impacts, and these issues are likely to be overarching concerns for the foreseeable future.

The evidence of climate change is already visible: changes in average seasonal temperatures, precipitation levels, growing season, sea surface temperature and more severe weather events. New Hampshire recently experienced three “one-hundred-year” rainstorms within eighteen months of each other.

Growth is also a critical challenge for New Hampshire—we have been the fastest growing state in New England for the last 20 years—which has both positive and negative impacts. As our state continues to grow, DES will be a leader in promoting sustainable development, without compromising environmental protection.

How can New Hampshire help fight global warming?

New Hampshire citizens can help fight global warming by consuming less carbon-based energy. The burning of fossil fuels—in our cars and trucks, for heating and cooling, and to generate electricity—produces emissions that contribute to global warming, as well as other air pollution problems.

DES works to encourage the conservation of energy in New Hampshire by promoting renewable energy through the Renewable Energy Act and the governor’s initiative to obtain 25 percent of our energy from renewable sources by 2025, as well as energy efficiency.

Leading by example, we are working to meet the governor’s 10 percent challenge to reduce energy use in state buildings by 10 percent, as well as reduce school bus and heavy-duty truck idling. DES is promoting the use of alternative fuels in state agency fleets, regional and local government fleets, and private fleets through the Granite State Clean Cities Coalition.

What are your priorities for next year?

A high priority will be working over the next year or so to implement the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, or RGGI, in New Hampshire. RGGI is a regional cap and trade system for carbon dioxide emissions from fossil-fueled power plants in ten eastern states (New England plus New York, New Jersey, Delaware, and Maryland). DES will be holding a series of stakeholder meetings in the fall on various aspects of the program and hopes to have a bill sponsored for consideration in the 2008 legislative session. We will also be focusing on solid waste issues, including ways to

increase recycling rates in New Hampshire communities, and we will be looking at the assessment and conservation of our water resources.

Three Fourths of Companies Expect to Spend More on Environmental Programs

According to a survey of more than 500 business executives conducted by Grant Thornton LLP, company executives believe that corporate responsibility programs can positively impact their business and help achieve strategic goals.

While conventional wisdom might suggest that these initiatives will drain the corporate coffers, only a quarter of survey respondents agreed that profits needed to be sacrificed, while three quarters believed corporate responsibility could enhance profitability. As a result, 77 percent said they expected corporate responsibility initiatives to have a major impact on their business strategies over the next several years.

“Corporate responsibility programs have moved out of the realm of public relations to become real tools for improving the bottom line,” said Jim Maurer, Grant Thornton’s national managing partner of the consumer and industrial products practice. “Companies are realizing that strong investment in corporate responsibility programs is both a civic obligation and a successful business strategy.”

Grant Thornton LLP is the U.S. member firm of Grant Thornton International, one of the six global accounting, tax and business advisory organizations. For more information about Grant Thornton LLP or this survey, contact Kristi Grgeta at 312-602-8720 or kristi.grgeta@gt.com or visit www.GrantThornton.com.

The Big Picture - Business Case for Climate Management

Climate change isn't just an environmental concern; it is a challenge that businesses face as well.

The change in climate threatens to undermine the "free" services that provide the economy's resource base. The earth's natural ability to cleanse the air and replenish fresh water, prevent erosion, and fight off pests is in a state of decline, unless something can be done to reduce and minimize the amount of pollutants emitted into the atmosphere.

Leading companies also recognize that there are often compelling business reasons to reduce emissions of heat-trapping greenhouse gases (GHGs) that go beyond the obvious concern of protecting the natural environment. By minimizing dependence on fossil fuels and improving operational efficiencies, companies can save money, reduce compliance costs, and avoid additional tax burdens.

Proactive companies also can buffer themselves from climate-related business impacts such as rising insurance rates for industrial activities and tighter regulations that affect operating costs. Reducing GHG emissions can also create future business opportunities such as providing cleaner energy sources, more efficient products, and advanced vehicle technologies.

Many actions that companies can take to reduce emissions are common to most organizations and potentially cost-effective. Examples include increasing energy efficiency in manufacturing or office equipment, diversifying energy consumption with renewable energy, and assessing the risk-limiting advantages of taking early action. Some actions, such as tracking the carbon efficiency in product transport and employee travel, can be taken in increments and require little or no upfront investment. Other actions may be taken over time, such as replacing equipment with models that have greater energy efficiency.

To read more about climate change and how your business can help create a positive impact, visit http://www.climatebiz.com/sections/backgrounder_detail.cfm?UseKeyword=Business%20Case.

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