

Wedbush Clean Technology and Industrial Growth Analysts Release Top Three Themes for Investors Hosts Annual Management Access Conference

- *Institutional, venture capital and private equity investors join over 55 leading public and private companies scheduled to attend and present on sectors including environmental services, industrial biotechnology, water and renewable energy solutions, smart grid energy efficiency, building and engineered products, industrial process technologies, and vehicle technologies*
- *Panel discussion “Water Supply Challenges in the New Economy” includes contributions from the California Water Commission, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission and XPV Capital*
- *Water technologies and environmental services tours of Xylem and Waste Management facilities hosted by Wedbush Equity Research Analysts*

San Francisco and Los Angeles, CA – September 12, 2012 – Wedbush Securities, one of the nation's leading broker dealers and [equity research firms](#), will host its annual [Wedbush Clean Technology & Industrial Growth Management Access Conference](#) in San Francisco on September 12 - 13, 2012. The conference connects Wedbush's institutional investing clients, including mutual funds, hedge funds, private equity investors and venture capitalists, with leading public and private clean technology and industrial growth organizations.

The event will address investment opportunities and provide insight on trends driving company performance through presentation tracks, small group meetings and a facilities tour of Xylem and Waste Management. A panel discussion on “Water Supply Challenges in the New Economy” will also take place, offering thoughts from industry leaders including Susan Sims, Executive Officer of the California Water Commission; Michael Carlin, Deputy General Manager and COO of San Francisco Public Utilities Commission; and Khalil Maalouf, Managing Director of XPV Capital.

Ahead of the conference, Wedbush's Clean Technology and Industrial Growth Equity Research Analysts offer industry insight surrounding the **Top Three Themes** they believe investors should examine –

1. **Water and Renewable Energy Solutions** – As a result of population growth, the dynamics of emerging market development, and the contamination of global water supplies, we strongly believe the world will confront a significant water challenge between now and 2030. In many regions, water deficits have already affected populations, and numerous government institutions have begun to address the alarming reality that there may not be enough clean water available to meet the world's projected demands. According to the 2030 Water Resources Group, there will be a 40% gap between demand and supply by 2030 and the gap is already apparent in key regions across the globe.

Wedbush believes this backdrop combined with the following drivers: an aging U.S. water infrastructure; recent and pending regulation; and global urban migration will continue to drive investments in the water sector.

2. **Environmental Services** – As concerns about the environmental impact of economic activities increase, companies are increasingly turning to new methods of managing waste and disposal, creating new opportunities in the space. Companies are increasingly embracing sustainability goals and concepts such as zero landfill, or the redesign of resource life cycles so that all products are reused and trash sent to landfills and incinerators is minimized.

Wedbush believes that with the EPA continuing to develop tools and practices to prevent pollution versus controlling it, businesses and related stakeholders across all industries are demanding preventive services to comply and avoid violating increased EPA regulations. This will continue to drive investments in the environmental services sector.

3. **Clean Technology** – The broader Clean Technology sector incorporates a range of themes where companies are pursuing growth opportunities by developing cleaner, more efficient, and environmentally responsible products. These range from Smart Grid products used predominantly at utilities, to suppliers of advanced LED lighting products, to services companies that build out utility infrastructure or retrofit facilities with more efficient solutions. Emerging companies in green transportation and biofuels also have significant appeal for their potential to significantly improve carbon emissions, in large and well established markets.

Wedbush believes the themes in CleanTech are already mainstream tenets guiding new product development for many industrial and technology companies, where manufacturers are leveraging improved efficiency to deliver more attractive products. Investment in innovation, serving attractive niche markets, should continue to drive attractive returns.

Public companies presenting at the conference include Aegion; AMCOL; Ameresco; A.O. Smith; Calgon Carbon; Covanta; Echelon; Earth 911; Ecology & Environment; Electrovaya; EnergySolutions; ESCO Technologies; Gibraltar Industries; Global Water Resources; Green Plains; HaloSource; Headwaters; Hudson Technologies; Itron; Layne Christensen; MYR Group; Pacific Ethanol; Perma-Fix Environmental Services; Progressive Waste Solutions; Quanta Services; Renewable Energy Group; Republic Services; Tetra Tech; Verenium; Waste Connections; Watts Water Technologies; Westport Innovations; World Energy Solutions and Xylem.

Private companies presenting at the conference are CalStar; Deeya Energy; Harvest Power; HydroPoint Data Systems; LED Roadway Lighting; Materia; Microseismic and Natural Systems Utilities.

The Wedbush Clean Technology & Industrial Growth Management Access Conference is by invitation only, please contact Wedbush Securities for additional information.

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