

Zurich, September 27, 2007

Yogesh Chander Deveshwar (ITC Ltd.) and David Johnston (What's Working Inc.) win this year's SAM/SPG Sustainability Leadership Award

This is now the seventh year of the SAM/SPG Sustainability Leadership Award. This Award acknowledges personal excellence in implementing the principles of sustainability in the corporate sector and is worth CHF 50,000 in total. An international selection committee of sustainability experts has given this year's Leader Award to Yogesh Chander Deveshwar, Chairman of ITC Ltd. The Pioneer Award goes to David Johnston, founder and President of What's Working Inc.

- **The Leader Award goes to Yogesh Chander Deveshwar, Chairman of ITC Ltd., one of India's foremost private sector companies. ITC has transformed remarkably, focussing on a corporate strategy that synergises shareholder value creation with societal goals.**
- **This year's Pioneer Award goes to David Johnston for his many years as a successful sustainable building expert. David Johnston, his sustainable building consultancy What's Working Inc. and his publications have transformed the way how people think in the US.**

Leader Award

Yogesh Chander (Y.C.) Deveshwar, Chairman of ITC Ltd., one of India's foremost private sector companies with a diversified presence such as hotels, paperboards, packaging agribusiness, packaged foods & confectionery and information technology, receives this year's **Leader Award**. Under the leadership of Y.C. Deveshwar (since 1996), ITC has transformed remarkably, focussing on a corporate strategy that synergises shareholder value creation with societal goals. Yogesh Deveshwar's vision for the company is "A Commitment beyond the Market". Y.C. Deveshwar envisioned

setting up of the CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development as an example of incentivizing CSR through recognition of excellence in sustainability practices. The Centre seeks to address the institutional void in developing the requisite capability among Indian industry. The Centre will endeavour to transform Indian businesses by providing thought leadership, promoting awareness and building capacity. ITC was the first company from India and among the first 10 corporations in the world to publish its Sustainability Report in compliance (at the highest A+ level) with the latest G3 guidelines of the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI). Under his leadership, ITC has created multiple drivers of growth, by consolidating and strengthening its diversified businesses in Hotels, Paper & Board, and Packaging, achieving accelerated growth and profitability. Y.C. Deveshwar has led ITC's pioneering initiatives with Indian farmers, many of whom live at the margin, to help transform villages into vibrant economic communities.

Y.C. Deveshwar, an engineering graduate from the Indian Institute of Technology in Delhi, joined ITC Ltd. in 1968. He was appointed as a Director on the Board in 1984 and became CEO and Chairman of the Board in 1996. From 1991 - 1994, he led Air India as Chairman and Managing Director. Mr. Deveshwar was the President of the Confederation of Indian Industry in 2005 - 2006. He is a member of the Board of Governors of the Indian School of Business and the former Chairman of the Society and Board of Governors of the Indian Institute of Management, Calcutta. He also serves on the National Executive Committees of some of India's premier trade and industry bodies. Mr. Deveshwar is also a member of the CEO's Forum instituted by the Governments of United States of America and India.

Pioneer Award

The **Pioneer Award 2007** goes to **David Johnston**, founder and President of What's Working Inc., a sustainable building consultancy that provides socially and ecologically responsible guidance to businesses, agencies and communities around the world. Johnston is a leading thinker behind the sustainable building movement, transforming the way how people think about building in the US. He established the first private sector sustainable building program in Denver through the local Home Builder's Association. Today, this is the largest program in the private sector and was the catalyst for the National Association of Home Builders to develop national sustainable building guidelines. His approach to sustainable building has been embraced by

municipalities, homeowners, building professionals and sustainability advocates nationwide.

Innovated by David Johnston in the mid-1990s the market transformation approach has been adapted by most major sustainable building programs. The end result is millions of tons of carbon saved, significant energy reduction over local building codes, millions of gallons of water saved, hundreds of thousands of trees saved and preservation of precious old growth forests. David Johnston is also the author of different publications about sustainable building. He designed the Denver Metro Home Builders Association's Built Sustainable Program and the Boulder Sustainable Points Program, which encourages the use of cost-effective and sustainable building practices. Johnston is also the founding designer and consultant to the Alameda County Waste Management Authority's program that stimulated market transformation programs in California and is at work to implement similar programs nationwide.

Johnston is a much sought after lecturer and keynote speaker and has represented the United States at International Energy Efficiency meetings to develop international research agreements in the area of sustainable construction. He has received numerous awards for his work, including the prestigious "Corporate Excellence Award for Sustainable Development" from the University of Colorado, and the "Environmental Hero for 2004" title by Interiors and Sources Magazine. Johnston was also named "Builder of the Year" by the Washington, D.C. chapter of the National Association of the Remodeling Industry and has been inducted into the Remodeling Magazine Hall of Fame.

Selection Criteria

The SAM/SPG Sustainability Leadership Award, which was presented today at the International Sustainability Leadership Symposium has a prize worth CHF 50,000. It is an annual award sponsored by SAM (Sustainable Asset Management) and its investment company SPG (Sustainable Performance Group), quoted on the SWX Swiss Exchange. The award goes to personalities that excel through their exceptional and proactive approach towards sustainability and their entrepreneurial success.

The major criteria for the selection process are:

Leader Award

- Member of the board of directors or the executive board, preferably a Chairman or a CEO, of a multinational company that is an important and well-reputed player within the industry
- Credible commitment and recognized personal leadership regarding his/her contribution to the development, implementation and promotion of sustainability principles in his/her company and beyond
- Documented achievements in making sustainability work in his/her company and beyond

Pioneer Award

- Outstanding individual working within or in close cooperation with the private sector
- Innovativeness of achieved projects, solutions, products or institutions contributing to the promotion and integration of sustainability principles in business
- Initial and traceable impact in promoting sustainability practices and/or technologies in business (sustainability business case)
- Amplification and dissemination potential of the innovation (internal and external)
- “Emerging” personality (new face), not yet acknowledged by the wide public

Criteria such as religion, gender, nationality, age or institutional background have no impact whatsoever on the selection process.

Previous Winners

- 2006: Travis Engen, retired President & CEO of Alcan Inc (Alcan)/Jeremy Leggett, CEO and Chairman of solarcentury
- 2005: Lars Rebién Sørensen, Chairman & CEO, Novo Nordisk/Bob Welsh, CEO, VicSuper

- 2004: Antony Burgmans, Chairman, Unilever N.V./Robin Cornelius, CEO, Switcher SA
- 2003: Tessa Tennant, Founder of the Association for Sustainable and Responsible Investment in Asia (ASrIA)
- 2002: Michael Otto, Chairman, Otto/José Maria Figueres Olsen, former President of Costa Rica and founder of Costa Rica Foundation for Sustainable Development
- 2001: Ray C. Anderson, CEO, Interface Inc.

The Jury 2007

- Ray Anderson, Founder, Interface Inc., USA (Award Winner 2001)
- Ernst A. Brugger, Chairman, Sustainable Performance Group, Switzerland
- Travis Engen, former President & CEO of Alcan Inc (Award Winner 2006)
- Claude Martin, former President, WWF international, Switzerland (President of the Selection Committee)
- Reto Ringger, CEO, SAM Group, Switzerland
- Björn Stigson, President, World Business Council for Sustainable Development, Switzerland
- Tessa Tennant, Executive Chair, The ICE Organisation and Founding Chair, Association for Sustainable & Responsible Investment in Asia (ASrIA), UK and Hong Kong (Award Winner 2003)

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About SAM (Sustainable Asset Management)

SAM (Sustainable Asset Management) was founded in 1995 as an independent asset management company for sustainability investments and has grown to become one of the world's leading institutions in this field. Its clientele comprises banks, insurance companies, pension funds, family offices and private investors.

SAM has a comprehensive portfolio of theme-based products in the areas of new energy sources, water, new materials, healthy living and climate. In addition, it offers large institutional investors a broad palette of client-oriented, mandate-based services (including optimised, active and restriction-free strategies).

SAM seeks and identifies leading companies on the basis of company-specific sustainability criteria. Integrating those future-oriented factors into the company valuation and investment process represents the foundation of its investment philosophy. SAM's know-how is based on its proprietary, independent research technique and an active, international network of sustainability experts. SAM maintains the world's largest sustainability database.

Together with Dow Jones Indexes and STOXX, SAM publishes and licenses the Dow Jones Sustainability Indexes to track the performance of companies that are industry leaders in terms of sustainability. For that purpose, SAM analyses over 1,000 companies a year.

SPG (Sustainable Performance Group, www.sustainable.ch) was created by SAM in 1997 and at that time, SPG was the first sustainable investment vehicle. SPG is focused on sustainability theme investments. The investment company is quoted on the SWX Swiss Exchange. SAM acts as investment advisor of SPG. The prime objective of SPG is to generate above-average shareholder value over the long-term. SPG invests in small and mid-sized companies whose innovative products and services give them a competitive advantage. The focus here is on sustainability themes, such as energy, water, healthy living and resource efficiency.

At the end of June 2007, SAM's assets under management and advice amounted to a total of EUR 7.9 billion (end of 2006: EUR 6.3 billion), of which EUR 3.7 billion (end of 2006: EUR 2.5 billion) were attributable to assets under management and a further EUR 4.2 billion (end of 2006: EUR 3.8 billion) to assets under advice (e.g. licenses).

SAM is headquartered in Zurich (Switzerland) and is among others present in Australia and North America. It employs 70 individuals.