



October 20, 2006 *For immediate release*  
Mountain States Hydrogen Business Council

## **New Mexico Hydrogen Business Council Becomes Mountain States Hydrogen Business Council, New Board Member Elected**

The Board of the New Mexico Hydrogen Business Council (NMHBC) recently elected to broaden the scope of the organization beyond its activities in New Mexico to include four other states in the Southwest: Colorado, Arizona, Nevada and Utah and become the Mountain States Hydrogen Business Council (MSHBC). With this regional perspective, the board adopted the following primary goals: become a catalyst for hydrogen business expansion in the region: fuel cells, H<sub>2</sub> internal combustion, distribution, and all methods of hydrogen production; help shape public policy for the fast, efficient and sensible deployment of a hydrogen infrastructure from a regional perspective; help refine roles, coordinate action, reduce cost and duplication of efforts within the region; support state and federal hydrogen economy goals; provide a forum for our members; encourage partnerships, communicate with the public; and emphasize inclusiveness of the hydrogen economy: renewable energy, sustainable energy, and fossil fuel generated hydrogen with appropriate emission controls.

“The MSHBC Board considered the fact that the business and political policy communities in these five states have just begun to focus on hydrogen as a component of their energy mix,” said Gerry Runte, President of the MSHBC. “We believe that the coordination of regional business activities, policy issues, as well as the creation of interconnected hydrogen infrastructure can be best facilitated by a non-profit association that “jump starts” initiatives and moves the region into a position of prominence within the global hydrogen energy community.”

The founding members of the MSHBC are: (Honorary): National Renewable Energy Laboratory, Fuel Cells 2000; (Affiliates/Reciprocal Memberships) Scottish Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Association, World Fuel Cell Council, National Hydrogen Association; (Regular Members): Air Products, ARES Corporation, Arizona Public Service, BOC/Linde, Colorado Fuel Cell Center, Eltron Research, Gas Technology Institute, General Motors, Hydrogenics, IF, LLC Intelligent Energy, Intergalactic Hydrogen Netozoic Inc., New Mexico Tech, Parsons, Proton Energy, ReliOn, Solar Integrated Technologies and Versa Power Systems.

In other business, Scott Fischler, was elected to the MSHBC Board. Mr. Fischler is the President/CEO of Netozoic, Inc., a technology consulting company specializing in renewable energy commercialization.

The Mountain States Hydrogen Business Council (MSHBC) is a 501 (c) 6 non profit association representing a diverse membership of industry, academic, and government leaders whose aim is to build a business base for hydrogen energy in the mountain states of the US southwest, including but not limited to Arizona, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico and Utah. Contact Gerry Runte, President, [gerry.runte@mountainstateshydrogen.com](mailto:gerry.runte@mountainstateshydrogen.com); MSHBC website: [www.mountainstateshydrogen.com](http://www.mountainstateshydrogen.com).