



REPORT OF THE JUDGES

**CERES-ACCA NORTH AMERICAN AWARDS
FOR SUSTAINABILITY REPORTING 2009**

report of the judges

INTRODUCTION

The Ceres-ACCA North American Awards for Sustainability Reporting aims to recognize and encourage exemplary reporting on sustainability performance by corporations and other organizations across the United States, Canada, and Mexico. As sponsors of the annual awards program, Ceres and ACCA believe that recognizing best practice in sustainability disclosure is crucial to driving improvements in sustainability performance; that reporting motivates benchmarking, learning and goal-setting, and builds an accountability mechanism for internal and external stakeholders—as well as a platform for engagement.

Ninety-three sustainability reports from companies and organizations, representing over 20 sectors, were submitted for review this year. Of these, fourteen reports were short-listed and an expert panel of judges met in January 2010 to select the award winners.

The judges decided to present three awards:

- Best Sustainability Report: **The Timberland Company**
- Best Sustainability Report (First Runner-Up): **Ford Motor Company**
- Best Small and Medium-Sized Enterprise Report: **Seventh Generation**

State of the art sustainability disclosure is evolving at a rapid pace. The three companies chosen as winners this year have set themselves apart by looking to what is current best practice and committing to push the envelope even further. They all clearly link sustainability to the business case, candidly communicate both strengths and challenges for sustainability performance, demonstrate how they engage stakeholders on sustainability issues and disclose that feedback, and effectively balance the use of traditional and innovative online reporting models.

Rigorous corporate sustainability disclosure has become a core expectation of corporations. Rising pressure from investors for improved corporate disclosure of environmental, social, and governance (ESG) risks, in addition to recent steps taken by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), the Ontario Securities Council (OSC), and the Ontario government, illustrate the growing regulatory emphasis on sustainability disclosure. A special section on the changing landscape of corporate sustainability disclosure (on page 16) provides more detail on these developments and highlights several companies that are beginning to integrate sustainability information into financial filings.

about this report

The aim of this document is to give companies and organizations the tools to assess and improve their own sustainability reporting. It provides a concise discussion of the key features of the winning reports and the judges' observations and recommendations on best practice.

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shortlisted reports

American Electric Power

www.aep.com

Baxter International

www.baxter.com

Bristol-Meyers Squibb

www.bms.com

Citi

www.citigroup.com

Coca-Cola Enterprises

www.cokecce.com

Ford Motor Company

www.ford.com

General Electric

www.ge.com

Hewlett-Packard

www.hp.com

Intel Corporation

www.intel.com

PG&E Corporation

www.pge.com

Seventh Generation

www.seventhgeneration.com

Suncor

www.suncor.com

Sunoco

www.sunocoinc.com

Timberland

www.timberland.com

entrants 2009

3M

Allergan

American Airlines

American Electric Power

Amtrak

Applied Materials

Aveda

Barrick Gold Corporation

Baxter International

Bristol-Meyers Squibb

Brown-Forman

CA, Inc.

Canada Post Corporation

Cascades

Catalyst

CB Richard Ellis

Citi

Coca-Cola Enterprises

Con Edison

ConAgra

Cummins

Dell, Inc.

Entergy

Exelon

Export Development Canada

Fairmount Minerals

Ford Motor Company

Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold

Gap, Inc.

General Electric

Haley & Aldrich

Haworth

Herman Miller

Hess Corporation

Horizon Utilities

Hormel Foods

Hewlett-Packard

Hydro-Quebec

IBM

Intel

ITT

JCPenney

Johnson & Johnson

MassMutual Financial Group

McKesson

MeetGreen

Metro Vancouver
Millipore
Monsanto
Mosaic
National Instruments
New Gold
NewPage Corporation
Northeast Utilities
Nova Chemicals
Pfizer
PG&E
Pinnacle West
PotashCorp
PRIZIM
PSEG
Qualcomm Incorporated
RecycleBank
Rio Tinto
Sanyo
Sara Lee
Seventh Generation
Smithfield
Sobey's

Societe de Transport de Montreal
Southern Company
Spectra Energy
State Street Financial
Strategic Sustainability Consulting
Suncor
Sunoco
Talisman Energy
Teck Resources Limited
TELUS
Texas Instruments
The Co-operators
Timberland
Toronto Hydro
TransAlta Corporation
University of California, Berkeley
UPS
Verso Paper
Virgin America
Wainwright Bank & Trust Co.
Walt Disney Company
Weyerhaeuser Company
Wharf Resources

judging

Ceres and ACCA wish to thank the judges for contributing their expertise and time to the awards program.

Panel of judges

William Blackburn

President
William Blackburn Consulting

Chantal Line Carpentier

Sustainable Development Officer
Department of Economic and Social Affairs
United Nations

Eric Fernald

Director of Research
RiskMetrics

Julie Fox Gorte

Senior Vice President, Sustainable Investing
Pax World Fund

Andy Hoffman

Holcim (US) Professor of Sustainable Enterprise
The University of Michigan

Bob Mann

Managing Director, North America
Jantzi-Sustainalytics

Katharine Partridge

Managing Partner
Stakeholder Research Associates Canada

David Vidal

Research Director, Global Corporate Citizenship
The Conference Board

Marianne Voss

Senior Manager, Corporate Advocacy and Collaborations
Oxfam America

JUDGING CRITERIA

An independent analyst reviewed and scored each of the submissions based on the Ceres-ACCA 41-point criteria. The top-scoring reports were then reviewed by a short-listing panel of judges. All short-listed reports were then considered by the full judging panel for receipt of an award.

The Ceres-ACCA judging criteria consider three elements of an excellent report:

Completeness (40%)

An excellent sustainability report enables the reader to form a complete view of a company's operations and impacts. Completeness covers four broad areas: materiality (significance of information disclosed), stakeholder inclusion (identification of audience and stakeholders, as well as processes followed), strategy (the level of integration of sustainability in the business) and organizational context (general information and placing activities in the context of sustainability).

Credibility (35%)

Credibility is defined as assurance from the presentation of evidence that there are organizational structures, processes and controls in place to enable the company to accurately present information on its impacts. This includes having policies, appropriate personnel in place, information gathering systems, management systems and performance targets. Credibility covers five broad areas: management process (the way the company is managed), stakeholder inclusion (how feedback is used and how it influences decision-making), governance (senior management and board involvement), performance data, and assurance (both internal and external).

Communication (25%)

Communication is the extent to which the sustainability report communicates to the declared target audiences. Communication covers three broad areas: presentation (how the report looks), stakeholder inclusion (how the report is made available to users), and structure (the style of reporting).

For the full judging criteria, see www.ceres.org/judgescriteria.

winners 2009

BEST SUSTAINABILITY REPORT

The Timberland Company

2007-2008 Corporate Social Responsibility Report: Responsibility Runs Deep

The Report:

Effectively utilizes a variety of disclosure strategies—through the combined use of traditional reporting methods with online communications vehicles—to provide sustainability information to a range of stakeholders.

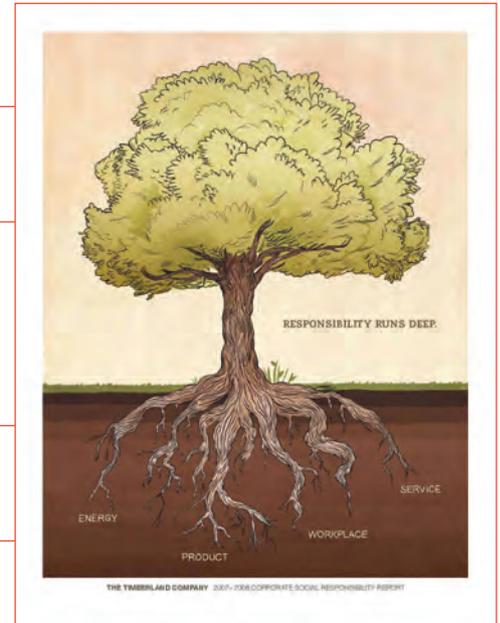
Expands upon traditional communication strategies by offering stakeholders new and innovative opportunities to engage with the company on sustainability issues. Timberland's Voices of Challenge online forum allows stakeholders to openly comment on and debate four key sustainability challenges facing the company and the industry. Stakeholders can also easily engage Timberland's CEO, Jeff Swartz, through his regular blogging, tweeting, and quarterly calls that focus on sustainability issues for the company.

Is updated on a quarterly basis with new data on key performance indicators. This data is also emailed to interested stakeholders and is coupled with analysis of Timberland's performance against its goals.

Includes an excellent discussion of product labeling, offering a detailed look at the company's efforts to develop its Green Index. The report highlights the company's challenges in expanding the Green Index to all products, as well as how it is working to build an industry-wide standard for labeling.

Offers honest and candid discussion on the issue of livable wage for the workers in its factories and supply chain. The company brings attention to the challenges surrounding this controversial topic and invites stakeholders to publicly comment on the issue through the Voices of Challenge forum.

Discloses how the company's policy efforts are consistent with its performance commitments on energy and climate.



The judges also made recommendations for improvement of the report. These include:

- Streamlining reporting efforts, from the current model that includes multiple reporting sources, into one central reporting vehicle to make it easier for interested readers to navigate the report and to obtain a comprehensive understanding of the company's overall sustainability strategy and goals.
- Incorporating discussion of how the company intends to use and respond to the commentary collected from stakeholders on the Voices of Challenge forum.

BEST SUSTAINABILITY REPORT: FIRST RUNNER-UP

Ford Motor Company

2008-09 *Blueprint for Sustainability: Our Future Works*

The Report:

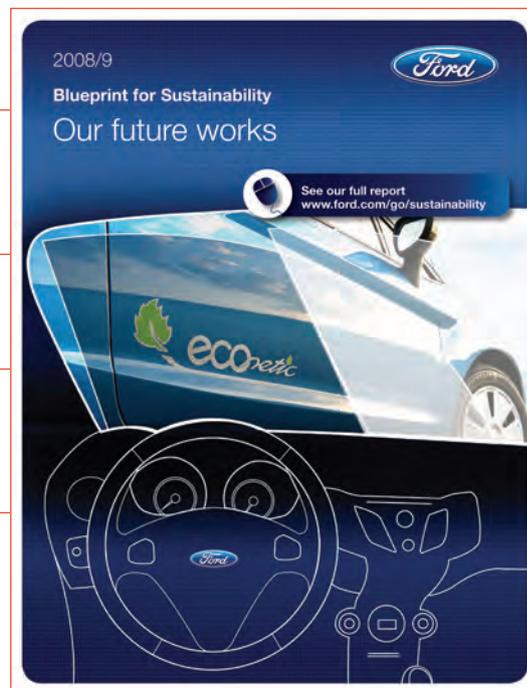
Addresses the fundamental challenge of the sustainability of Ford's business in a candid manner. It presents detailed discussion of the company's economic recovery plan, including discussion of Ford's progress to date, plans to restructure the business, and strategies for developing new and more sustainable product lines.

Clearly connects sustainability with the business strategy, candidly discussing past performance, mistakes that have been made, and how the company is working to integrate sustainability into its evolving business model.

Includes an excellent discussion of Ford's approach for identifying and assessing material issues, as well as how it involves stakeholders in this process. The online report presents a detailed materiality matrix, which links to web pages where the reader can learn more about specific issues identified.

Provides an overview of the company's approach to product design and manufacture using life-cycle assessment (LCA) and Design for Sustainability. The report highlights Ford's Product Sustainability Index (PSI), a tool that incorporates an LCA of environmental, social, and economic aspects of its vehicles into the company's product development. The report provides product data on the life cycle GHG emissions, use of sustainable materials, safety, among other PSI factors, and compares that data to the performance of previous Ford models.

Details how sustainability is integrated into Ford's governance and management structures, including discussion of the responsibilities of the Board of Directors' sustainability committee and how sustainability performance is assessed as part of senior management compensation.



The judges also made recommendations for improvement of the report. These include:

- Developing short, medium, and long-term targets that are both quantitative and time-bound for each of the key performance indicators.
- Linking the disclosure of environmental and social risks provided in Ford's financial filings to the sustainability report so that the reader understands Ford's connection of sustainability risks to the financial risks for the company.

BEST SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED ENTERPRISE REPORT

Seventh Generation

Crossroads: Reinventing The Purpose and Possibility of Business

The Report:

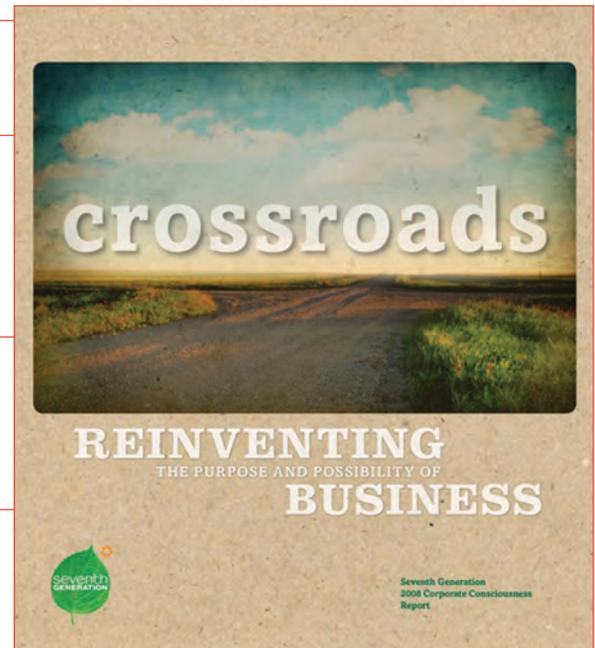
Includes candid discussion of the company's product stewardship efforts, including the challenges of balancing sustainable product design with consumer expectations for quality and performance.

Features in depth discussion of Seventh Generation's engagement with its manufacturing partners to improve sustainability performance. The report includes details of the Seventh Generation's Manufacturing Partners Annual Report (MPAR) scorecard and audit findings, as well as a description of the company's Sustainability Summit that brings together suppliers to learn about sustainability best practice.

Provides transparent discussion of the increasingly competitive industry and recognizes the role its competitors can also play in driving the market toward improved sustainability. The report describes how Seventh Generation is working to change its industry through collaboration for improved disclosure of ingredients on product labels.

Highlights Seventh Generation's efforts to engage, educate, and empower consumers in a variety of ways, including the development of a "Label Reading Guide," available as a cell phone application, that helps consumers better understand the ingredients on cleaning product labels.

Discusses how sustainability is integrated into its governance structures and announces plans for the company to create a sustainability committee of its Board of Directors.



The judges also made recommendations for improvement of the report. These include:

- In addition to the company's existing short and long term targets, developing short, medium, and long-term targets for each of the key performance indicators that are both quantitative and time bound.
- Disclosing more detail about the management systems in place to create accountability for sustainability performance at every level of the company.

judges' observations and recommendations

Since 2000, the judges of the Ceres-ACCA Awards have issued annual reports summarizing key trends and observations on the state of corporate sustainability disclosure in North America. For nearly a decade the judges have commented on the evolution of reporting—observing both positive changes, and highlighting those elements of reporting that still require improvement.

Many of the judges' earliest recommendations for best practice are today common elements of most sustainability reports. For example, in 2002 Ceres launched the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) and the judges recognized the GRI Guidelines as the future for standardized sustainability reporting. Now the GRI Guidelines are the de facto standard for sustainability reporting worldwide, with over 1500 companies using the guidelines globally, and the standard continues to dominate among the submissions to the Ceres-ACCA Awards.

In 2002, the judges also recommended that companies improve their disclosure of stakeholder engagement. In 2010, engagement of stakeholders in the development of a company's sustainability report is now not the exception, but the rule. Increasingly companies are not only disclosing the process for engaging stakeholders in reporting and strategy development, but also report the comments received from those stakeholders and the company's response to that feedback.

This section of the report will comment upon the continuing evolution of reporting—highlighting several positive trends, as well as key areas for improvement.

REPORTING ASPECTS

Substantive Stakeholder Dialogue and Engagement

The judges observed that stakeholder engagement is becoming a standard part of most companies' reporting and strategic business development processes, and that many companies are starting to integrate stakeholder feedback in new and creative ways. Over 90% of the submissions this year included some discussion of stakeholder engagement. **Teck** and **Freeport-McMoRan**, provide detailed charts outlining various stakeholder groups, their interests and concerns, and details on how the company engages each group. First-time reporter, **Spectra Energy**, takes it one step further by detailing how the company works to meet stakeholder expectations. **Citi** and **Intel** identify the feedback received from various stakeholders and specifically detail how the company responded to that feedback.

Board Oversight and Management Accountability

Year over year, the judges have observed the lack of disclosure on the integration of sustainability into governance structures. This year the judges saw an increasing number of companies disclosing accountability for sustainability performance at the highest levels of the company. **Pinnacle West** has a Chief Sustainability Officer and **Aveda**, **Pfizer**, **State Street**, and **UPS** among others, have designated senior level management with direct responsibility for sustainability performance. **Ford** provides an interactive chart laying out the company's governance and management structures—including details of how sustainability is managed at the board level. **Coca-Cola Enterprises**, **Timberland**, **American Electric Power** and others have board committees with direct responsibility for sustainability.

Vehicles for Disclosure: Balancing Print with Web

The introduction of online reporting has completely altered the way in which companies communicate sustainability performance to stakeholders. Nearly all of the companies that submitted to the 2009 awards included some web-based component in their sustainability reporting. The judges noted that the best web reports were easy to navigate, searchable, incorporated multi-media, and offered a build-your-own PDF option. It was also noted that the judges appreciate having options for both print reporting and online content. **Baxter's** printed summary report includes a two-page graphic guide to the online report. **General Electric's** web report includes a tutorial on how to navigate the report's performance metrics, while **Sunoco** provides a "How to Use this Report" section in the online report.

A number of companies continue to explore the use of web 2.0 mediums to communicate with and engage stakeholders. **Brown-Forman's** Issues Forum offers a venue for stakeholders to post comments on several controversial issues for the company, such as binge drinking and drunk driving. **Timberland's** Voices of Challenge website presents four challenging issues related to each of the company's sustainability pillars and invites stakeholders to comment and engage with Timberland employees in a public forum.

Goals and Targets

The judges observed that although the number of companies setting targets and goals is increasing—there is still a lack of time-bound quantitative commitments. Some companies are moving in the direction of setting short, mid, and long-term goals. **Seventh Generation** sets out short-term goals paired with several mid-term and long-term quantitative targets. **HP** and **Timberland** both set out short and mid-term targets and communicate this data through convenient summary dashboards. The judges noted that the strongest reports provided analysis of how the company is performing against targets and were transparent regarding potential challenges for meeting those targets. **Timberland** provides stakeholders with quarterly updates on several key performance indicators, comparing its performance against targets and highlighting those areas that have been of particular challenge to the company.

Verification and Assurance

The judges continued to observe the lack of verification and assurance among the submitting reports. Verification of both sustainability data and processes is a necessary component of credible and transparent sustainability disclosure. Some companies, such as **American Electric Power** and **General Electric**, incorporate stakeholder feedback through an external stakeholder assurance statement. To ensure valid results of key sustainability performance data, however, companies should have disclosures reviewed by an independent and credible third party. **Bristol Meyers-Squibb** and **State Street** used third party auditors to verify both select performance data and processes.

Linking Sustainability to the Bottom Line

As the business case for sustainable business practice becomes more evident, the judges have observed more companies directly linking sustainability strategy with the company's financial bottom line. **Baxter's** Environmental Financial Statement is a best practice for disclosing cost savings and return on investment (ROI) of sustainability strategies and initiatives. **Sanyo's** report includes an environmental accounting section detailing costs and savings by activity, while **Potash** reports environmental operating and capital costs by business segments.

A few companies are also beginning to motivate and reward employees for contributing to improved corporate sustainability performance. **Intel** links a portion of the annual bonus for all employees to the company's environmental performance. **The Co-operators** disclose that in 2009 senior level compensation will be linked to delivering specific aspects of the company's sustainability strategy and sustainability is a component of **Ford's** compensation review for senior executives and business unit managers.

Product Stewardship Disclosure and Transparency

In recent years, the judges have seen an increasing number of companies disclosing strategies for addressing the impacts of their products. The three winners chosen this year—**Timberland**, **Ford**, and **Seventh Generation**—have all demonstrated excellent product stewardship disclosure. **Ford**'s Product Sustainability Index is a tool that incorporates life-cycle analysis (LCA) of the environmental, social, and economic aspects of its vehicles from the earliest stages of development to usage by the consumer. **Seventh Generation** and **Timberland** have made considerable efforts not only to integrate sustainability into the product design phase, but also to educate the consumer through transparent product labeling. Other companies with excellent product stewardship disclosure include **Aveda**, **Herman Miller**, and **HP**.

Base of the Pyramid Reporting

The “Base of the Pyramid” (BOP) refers to the four billion people living on less than \$2 a day who face in their daily lives many of the world’s most acute sustainability challenges.¹ Providing products and services that serve to help low-income consumers achieve a higher standard of living is both an enormous challenge and opportunity for companies. The judges noted that a few companies within the submissions have begun to discuss how they are focusing on the Base of the Pyramid and developing products and services to serve and support these communities. **Baxter** and **Bristol Meyer-Squibb** both disclose how they are respectively working to improve global access to healthcare. Despite early efforts to report on this topic, the judges noted that few companies candidly addressed the challenges of serving BOP markets or linked their efforts to global frameworks such as the Millennium Development Goals.

Supply Chain Reporting

The judges observed that although disclosure on the supply chain is improving, overall there is room for increased transparency and accountability in this critical component of many companies’ sustainability footprints. The judges also noted a need for advanced reporting regarding how corporate purchasing practices affect sustainability performance of the factories in the supply chain. **Gap** discusses how it has analyzed and altered its own procurement practices to improve the working conditions in its factories and the company also provides three-year trend data on the performance of its contract factories. **HP** and **Intel** describe their respective supply chain programs and discuss how they are engaging with industry groups to measure and report the greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions of tier 1 suppliers. **Dell** also requires primary suppliers to measure and publicly report GHG emissions and requests suppliers to set targets for reduction. **Timberland** and **Seventh Generation** both discuss in detail how they are engaging suppliers to build awareness and capacity for addressing sustainability challenges.

SMEs and First-Time Reporters

This year the number of first-time reporters and small to medium-sized enterprise (SME) reporters declined significantly from 2008. The judges can only surmise that the decline was in response to the economic crisis that resulted in reduced resources for smaller companies and those looking to produce their first sustainability report. **Seventh Generation**, winner for this year’s Best SME Reporter award, continues to be a best practice example of sustainability disclosure. The judges continue to encourage companies in these categories to find economical ways to disclose sustainability information and hope to see an increased number of submissions in these categories in future years.

¹ Hammond, Allen, William J Kramer, Julia Tran, et. al. *The Next 4 Billion: Market Size and Business Strategy at the Base of the Pyramid*. World Resources Institute and International Finance Corporations, World Bank Group. March, 2007. Retrieved from <http://www.wri.org/publication/the-next-4-billion>.

the changing landscape of disclosure

According to Corporate Register, in 2002 less than 1500 companies were producing sustainability reports and in 2009 the number rose to 3315. A survey conducted by KPMG in 2008 of the world's 250 largest companies also supports this trend. The survey found that 79% are now issuing stand-alone sustainability reports and 77% state that they use the GRI Guidelines in their reporting.² Despite the positive increase in sustainability disclosure, there is still more work to be done to ensure that the information presented is comparable and useful to stakeholders.

Investors have been increasingly asking companies for comparable and higher quality disclosure on material sustainability issues. Since 2004, Ceres and members of its Investor Network on Climate Risk (INCR) have engaged with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) on the issues of climate risk and broader ESG disclosure. In January 2010, the SEC issued interpretive guidance on existing SEC disclosure requirements as they apply to business or legal developments relating to the issue of climate change.

The guidance is not a new rule, but rather serves to further clarify the existing requirement regarding disclosure of material risks in financial filings. A number of companies have started to disclose climate and other ESG information in financial filings, but there is still a great deal of variability on the breadth and depth of disclosure between companies even within the same sector. **PG&E**, **Xcel Energy**, and **Rio Tinto** among others have begun to disclose climate-related risk information in their financial filings, while **Intel** and **Pinnacle West** are now including water-related risk information in their 10-Ks.

The SEC's guidance, the first economy-wide climate risk disclosure requirement globally, comes on the heels of several other major policy actions calling for mandatory sustainability disclosure in North America.

- In December 2009, the Ontario Securities Commission (OSC) announced its commitment to publish guidance for companies by December 2010 on compliance with its environmental disclosure requirements. Canadian and U.S. investors have called on the OSC to pay close attention to climate change disclosure when it publishes the new guidance, and they have asked other Canadian securities regulators to join the OSC's efforts to improve disclosure.
- As part of the OSC review, ACCA partnered with the Hennick Center at York University to conduct a public consultation of business and environmental groups to further inform the commission's deliberations. The consultation report was published in March 2010.
- Beginning in May 2010, the U.S National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) will require insurers with premiums of \$500 million or more to disclose climate risks to regulators, shareholders, and the public.

² Slater, Allison. *KPMG International Survey of Corporate Responsibility Reporting 2008*. KPMG.com. October 2008. Retrieved from http://us.kpmg.com/RutUS_prod/Documents/8/Corporate_Sustainability_Report_US_Final.pdf.

- Also starting in 2010, all government operations in British Columbia must be carbon neutral under a new Provincial Cap & Trade program that affects facilities that emit 10,000 tons or more of GHG emissions per year. All facilities in Ontario that emit 25,000 tons or more of GHG emissions annually must report independently verified emission statements. And beginning in June, the Canadian Federal government will lower its mandatory GHG emissions reporting threshold, requiring hundreds of additional facilities across Canada to report.
- In the United States, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will begin collection of GHG emissions data from 10,000 U.S. facilities as part of its new mandatory GHG reporting rule in 2010.

Building on these developments, investors continue to push the SEC and the OSC to provide further guidance for companies on disclosing broader ESG risks in financial filings in order to better assess the risks facing the companies in their portfolios and make informed investment decisions. Such guidance would also provide companies with clear direction for disclosure and serve to level the playing field for those already disclosing this information.

Climate Change Reporting

Throughout 2009 ACCA produced over a dozen submissions, articles and reports, on the subject of climate change and sustainability reporting. Some of these include: *High Impact Sectors: the Challenge of Reporting on Climate Change*; *Getting It: Expert perspectives on the Corporate Response to Climate Change; After Copenhagen*; *Stop Saying No and Start Saying Yes*; and, *US Climate Change Policy—where Next?* Read more at <http://www.accaglobal.com/general/activities/subjects/climate/projects/> and http://www.accaglobal.com/general/activities/library/sustainability/sus_pubs.

DISCLOSURE: A CRITICAL ELEMENT OF A COMPREHENSIVE SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY

Solid sustainability disclosure is a significant component of a cohesive and effective sustainability strategy. Yet, good disclosure must be accompanied by other core elements including strong sustainable governance structures, stakeholder engagement, and strategies for improved sustainability performance. In March 2010 Ceres released **The 21st Century Corporation: The Ceres Roadmap for Sustainability** to serve as a practical guide for companies looking to develop a sustainable business strategy and to transition to a more sustainable economy. This Roadmap lays out 20 key expectations for sustainable companies to achieve by 2020—exploring the rationale and key considerations involved in making the shift to a sustainable business model and offering best practice examples and resources to help companies on their way. To learn more and to download the Roadmap, please visit www.ceres.org/ceresroadmap.

about ACCA and Ceres

About ACCA

ACCA is the global body for professional accountants. We offer business-relevant, first-choice qualifications to people of application, ability and ambition around the world who seek a rewarding career in accountancy, finance and management. We have 362,000 students and 131,500 members in 170 countries worldwide. ACCA began its international program of Sustainability Reporting Awards 12 years ago in London and it currently is active in a dozen countries. This is the ninth year for the Awards program in North America, where it is operated in partnership with Ceres.



About Ceres

Ceres is a national network of over 130 investment funds, environmental organizations, labor unions and other public interest groups working to increase corporate responsibility. Formed in 1989, Ceres created the Ceres Principles, a pioneering 10-point code of corporate environmental conduct that led to widespread adoption of environmental principles by corporations worldwide. In 1997, Ceres launched the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI), which has become the internationally established standard for corporate reporting on the "triple bottom line" of economic, social and environmental performance. GRI is now an independent institution, with over 1500 companies using the guidelines. Ceres also directs the Investor Network on Climate Risk (INCR) with over 90 investor members with nearly \$10 trillion in assets under management.



supporters

CorporateRegister.com is the Communications Supporter of the Ceres-ACCA Sustainability Reporting Awards program. CorporateRegister.com is the global corporate responsibility (CR) resources website. It hosts the world's most comprehensive directory of CR and sustainability reports, profiling nearly 23,000 reports worldwide from over 5,000 companies. With an archive stretching back to 1990 it is indispensable for anyone working in the field of CR and sustainability reporting. www.corporateregister.com



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