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November 6, 2008

DURHAM, N.H. - Recent developments in the energy industry and extreme volatility in the markets will be the focus of a panel discussion at the next CEO Forum at the University of New Hampshire.

"The Inside Scoop on Energy" will be held at 8 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 13, 2008, at the New England Center. The panelists include David Blittersdorf, founder and chairman of NRG Systems; Tom Rath, founder of Rath Young Pignatelli Law Firm and The Rath Group; and Paul Beswick, founder of Beswick Engineering and a CEO Forum board member. The moderator is Gary Rinaldi, chief operating officer and chief financial officer of Sprague Energy.

Rinaldi will give an overview of Sprague Energy and discuss the recent developments in the energy industry, focusing on the extreme volatility in the markets. Panelists will provide their respective views on energy-related topics, such as the world and U.S. energy markets, alternative fuels (wind power), and the expected changes in U.S. energy policy, based on the November election results.

Gary Rinaldi  
Prior to joining Sprague in 2003, Rinaldi was the managing partner of SUN Group in Europe, with overall management responsibility for SUNInterbrew, the largest brewing company in Eastern Europe, as well as SUN Capital's $150 million private equity fund. He previously worked for more than 13 years for Phibro Energy, a division of Salomon Inc., serving in various energy-related senior financial and operational management positions. He is a graduate of the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania.

David Blittersdorf  
Headquartered in Vermont, NRG Systems is a global leader in wind measurement technology. NRG Systems serves the wind energy industry exclusively in more than 125 countries, from wind farm developers and turbine manufacturers to electric utilities and research institutes. Blittersdorf will provide an overview of the world energy markets with a view to the future, including a discussion and overview of NRG Systems and wind energy.

Tom Rath  
Former New Hampshire Attorney General, Rath has served as a senior national advisor to the presidential campaigns of Howard Baker, Robert Dole, Lamar Alexander and George W. Bush. He is widely respected as a political analyst at both the state and national level, and he appears regularly on national, regional and state television newsmaker programs. He will focus on U.S. energy policy and legislative initiatives expected from the new administration, and will provide insight and commentary on the implications of the Nov. 4 election results.

Paul Beswick  
Beswick will explain the dynamics of his business and share a practical approach that he is implementing to manage/lower energy costs through a geothermal pump system.
To register for the forum or become a member of the UNH CEO Forum, call Barbara Draper at 603-862-1107, or e-mail her at barbara.draper@unh.edu. The event is free to members and $49 for nonmembers.

Initiated in 1997, the UNH CEO Forum is an outreach program of the UNH Whittemore School of Business and Economics and the UNH Graduate School serving CEOs, presidents, and senior managers of companies in northern New England. The forum provides its members with opportunities to meet and exchange ideas with their peers in business and industry in an informal setting. The UNH CEO Forum is sponsored by the law firm of Pierce Atwood, Ocean Bank and Snowden Associates. For more information about the CEO Forum, visit http://www.unh-ceoforum.org/.

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