

2nd German American Energy Conference 2010

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Michael Eckhart
President
American Council On Renewable Energy (ACORE)

Michael Eckhart is founding President and a member of the Board of Directors of the American Council On Renewable Energy (ACORE). He also is co-chairman of the World Council for Renewable Energy (WCRE), a member of the Steering Committee of the REN 21 global policy network, and co-head of the North American Secretariat of the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Partnership (REEEP). He is a 2008 recipient of the Skoll Award for Social Entrepreneurship, a 2006 recipient of RSA's Good Deal for All Award, and a three-time participant in the Clinton Global Initiative.

In 1998 he was named Renewable Energy Man of the Year of India for his work in bringing financing to solar energy markets, and in 1999 formed a \$50 million joint venture between Shell and ESKOM in South Africa which electrified 10,000 off-grid homes with solar home systems.

He has over 25 years of experience in renewable energy, power generation, high technology, and finance. Previously, he was Chairman/CEO of United Power Systems, Inc.; Co-founder and Vice President of the venture capital firm Arete Ventures, Inc.; Manager of Strategic Planning for the Power Systems Sector of General Electric Company; and a Principal of Booz, Allen & Hamilton's energy practice where he conducted many of the original national studies in the 1970s on emerging energy technologies including solar PV, solar heating & cooling, solar thermal-electric, windpower, hydropower, geothermal energy, cogeneration, energy storage, advanced coal combustion, gasification, liquefaction, synthetic fuels, and advanced nuclear. He served in the US Navy Submarine Service. He received a BS in Electrical Engineering from Purdue University and an MBA from Harvard Business School.

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