



# PRESS NOTICE

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## VCSA TO BOOST TEAM & OPEN WASHINGTON HQ

**08 October 2008, LONDON** – David Antonioli has been announced today as the new CEO of the Voluntary Carbon Standard Association (VCSA), replacing current Acting CEO, Edwin Aalders. Antonioli will report to the Board of the Voluntary Carbon Standard Association (VCSA) starting from 27 October 2008.

Antonioli has 10 years market experience and joins from five years at EcoSecurities, where he led the development of major CDM projects before heading the firm's international participation in the voluntary sector. He will not only oversee the imminent launch of the VCS global registry system but also establish new VCSA headquarters in Washington DC. The VCS is enjoying growing popularity in North America where VCUs are attracting attention from buyers and policy-makers as affordable, high quality credits, that could be transferred to any future US cap and trade system.

The VCSA also announced today that Jerry Seager has joined as VCS Program Manager from The Carbon Neutral Company where he held a lead role in the carbon origination team and was closely involved in advising sellers, end-buyers and other stakeholders on the practical applications of the VCS. Reporting to Antonioli, Seager will oversee technical development of the standard and its global registry system. He will be based at the offices of The Climate Group in London before moving to the new Washington office in early 2009.

Mark Kenber, Policy Director of The Climate Group and Chairman of the VCSA, says: *"I am delighted that both David and Jerry are joining the team as the VCSA looks ahead to the launch of its ground-breaking global registry and its first US headquarters. I am confident David's experience, knowledge and dynamism will ensure the VCS fulfils its potential as the world's leading voluntary offset standard. I would also like very much to thank Edwin Aalders for his important and valued contribution over the last year. His role as Acting CEO has been instrumental in establishing the current popularity and credibility of the VCS."*

Edwin Aalders returns to his existing role as Director of the International Emissions Trading Association (IETA) in November but will stay on as a part-time advisor to the VCSA Board on a range of technical issues.

David Antonioli, new CEO of the VCS, says: *"I look forward to joining the VCSA at this critical juncture. In just a year, the VCS has already established a formidable reputation for environmental integrity, increased consumer confidence and market credibility. The launch of the global registry system will take the VCS to the next level, and both we are eager to continue building on its current success."*

The Voluntary Carbon Standard (VCS) is fast becoming one of the most popular global standards in the voluntary carbon market. Since launching in 2007 it has provided a new and much needed quality assurance for certification of credible voluntary offsets. Market analysts estimate that annual transactions in the voluntary carbon market could reach USD4billion in the next five years and that the VCS – already popular with buyers – will be instrumental to this future growth.

Development of the VCS has been led by The Climate Group, the International Emissions Trading Association (IETA) and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD).

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## **NOTES TO EDITORS**

### **About the Voluntary Carbon Standard (VCS)**

- The VCS is a global benchmark standard for project-based voluntary greenhouse gas emission reductions and removals. It offers confidence to buyers, sellers and other stakeholders in the growing voluntary carbon market.
- The VCS was developed by The Climate Group, the International Emissions Trading Association (IETA), the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) and a range of business, government and non-government organisations.
- Rules for certification under the VCS are as robust as those of the Kyoto Protocol's Clean Development Mechanism (CDM), while reducing costs for participants.
- The VCS is already the most popular single standard for voluntary offset projects according to businesses working in the voluntary carbon market. The VCS was also deemed to be the most appropriate for the future needs businesses in the market. (Source: "State of the Voluntary Carbon Markets 2007", Ecosystem Marketplace and New Carbon Finance)
- Full technical details of the standard are published and available at [www.v-c-s.org](http://www.v-c-s.org)
- The VCS global registry is in the final stages of development to approve all VCUs (Voluntary Carbon Units) issued under the VCS. The public will be able to access information on every offset project approved under the VCS and it will issue unique serial numbers to ensure offsets cannot be used twice. The registry represents the final phase of the VCS development and is expected to launch before the end of the year.

### **About David Antonioli (CEO, VCSA)**

David Antonioli has more than 10 years experience in the carbon markets. He began his involvement in the sector working for ICF Kaiser Consulting (1994 – 1999) where he provided technical assistance to Latin American countries developing their greenhouse gas inventories, and also participated in one of the first-ever verifications of a GHG project – the ILUMEX project that replaced 2.5 million incandescent light bulbs with compact fluorescents throughout Mexico in the late 1990s. David then became the Climate Change Advisor for USAID in Mexico (1999 – 2003), where he funded and supervised ground-breaking work related to methodologies for calculating the Mexican grid emission factor and forestry-sector project baselines. David joined EcoSecurities in 2003 and managed EcoMethane, a joint venture that built a portfolio of landfill gas CDM projects throughout the world. More recently, David was the Head of Voluntary Markets for EcoSecurities, where he coordinated the activities related to the firm's participation in the voluntary sector.

David holds a Bachelor's Degree from Princeton University (1987), a Masters Degree in Public Policy from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University (1992), and a Graduate Certificate in International Finance and Global Markets from the McDonough School of Business at Georgetown University (1999).

### **About Jerry Seager (VCS Program Manager)**

Jerry joins as VCS Program Manager from The CarbonNeutral Company where he had a leading role within the carbon sourcing team. He had responsibility across the entire origination process, from project identification through to technical assessment, deal negotiation and ERPA conclusion. In addition, he led on all technical aspects of the carbon sourcing process.

Prior to this, he spent eight years in investment banking and consulting (JP Morgan and American Management Systems) designing and implementing trading and risk management systems before gaining an MSc in Environmental Technology at Imperial College, London.

Jerry has been closely involved in the practical application of the VCS since its inception, advising buyers, project developers and other stakeholders on VCU compliance, and delivering over 15 projects totaling 1.5m VCUs.