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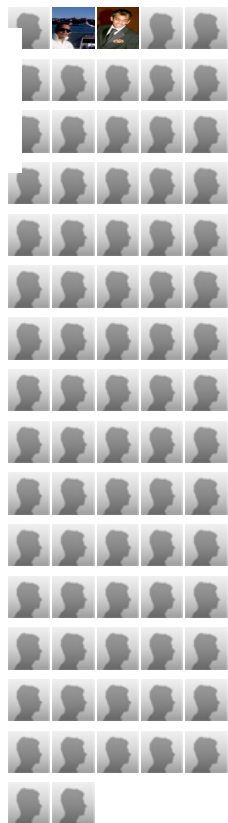
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VENTUREBEAT

Nasdaq OMX, Clean Edge launch Smart Grid index

Sept. 23, 2009

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The Nasdaq OMX Group has teamed up with cleantech publishing firm Clean Edge to launch a new Smart Grid Infrastructure Index to track companies working toward a cleaner, more efficient electrical grid from meter makers to storage and demand response providers.

In order to access this information, users must go through Nasdaq OMX Global Index Watch. The site has over 2,000 indexes tracking companies across all categories.

The index is intended to attract more attention the issues and players involved in the Smart Grid's development. The government has been placing a lot of emphasis on this area recently, offering government grants to utility companies looking to modernize their systems. Consumers, too, have started to sit up and notice, expressing more interest in what their utilities are doing to lower power-related emissions and conserving energy on one hand, and eager to slash their electricity bills on the other.

The new index is targeted at investors who want to ride this wave — allowing them to easily view and monitor Smart Grid companies so that they can make more informed financial decisions. It might even encourage some investors to back companies in the space that may not have otherwise, the Nasdaq and Clean Edge say. Just like the overall Nasdaq, the data presented will be updated in real time. Today, it's value was 250.00.

This isn't the first time Nasdaq OMX has created an index focused on the cleantech sector. It is also developing similar directories for investors interested in renewable energy, advanced transportation and other energy management startups, the exchange company says. Clean Edge's involvement is unclear — except that the firm helps select which companies should be included in the index. So far there are 29. Here are the names listed in the press release announcing the news:

American Superconductor Comverge Echelon EnerNOC ESCO Technologies General Cable ITC Holdings Itron Jinpan International NGK Insulators Pike Electric Power-One Quanta Services RuggedCom SatCon Technology Schneider Electric SMA Solar Technology ABB Advanced Energy Industries Cooper Industries Digi International General Electric Intellon MasTec National Grid Siemens Telvent Valmont Industries Wesco International

VentureBeat is hosting GreenBeat, the seminal executive conference on the Smart Grid, on Nov. 18-19, featuring keynotes from Nobel Prize winner Al Gore and Kleiner Perkins' John Doerr. Get your early-bird tickets for \$495 before Sept. 30 at GreenBeat2009.com.

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