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**Media Release: Sustainable Business Network (SBN)**

**2010/2011 Sustainable Business Network National Board Looks to the Future**

**For immediate Release**

The Sustainable Business Network membership has recently elected a new National Board for 2010/2011. Current Board members, Glen Saunders (Financial Consultant and Investment Banker), and Steve Bonnici (Managing Director, Urgent Couriers), are joined by the newly elected Sophie Heighway (Sustainability Manager, Downer NZ), Rod Oram (Media Commentator, Adjunct Professor), and Chris Morrison (Founder, Phoenix Organics).

The elected Board members are joined by regional advisory board representatives Sarah Sinclair (Northern Region), Bruce Fraser (Bay of Plenty), Steve Dixon (Central Region), and Peter Taylor (Southern Region).

At the inaugural Board meeting, Glen Saunders CA was elected as Chair and Sophie Heighway as Vice-Chair. Glen steps into the shoes of the long-serving previous Board Chair, Chris Morrison, and sees this as an exciting opportunity to progress sustainable business.

“SBN has been one of the main organisations in New Zealand making the case for sustainability being a central business issue. We're now entering a new phase where this needs to become operational - to become what business does in the day-to-day as much as thinks about in its broader strategy. I think that will be the new theme for SBN, to build on the tools and services which we've already developed to give all sorts of businesses in New Zealand practical ways to do this, while continuing to increase awareness of this as an essential business theme over the next years”, Glen says.

The Sustainable Business Network is a forum for businesses that are interested and engaged in sustainable practices. SBN's Chief Executive, Rachel Brown, believes that SBN play a pivotal role in helping businesses to succeed through sustainability.

“The next few years represent an exciting time for sustainability in New Zealand. By embracing and embedding sustainable practices, businesses will ensure that they are at the cutting edge, both on a domestic and international level. Via the provision of practical opportunities to do, learn, create and share, SBN is best placed to support this,” she says.

SBN is proud to be supported by National Sponsors NZI and EECA Business.

"The team at NZI would like to congratulate Glen Saunders on his appointment as the new chair of the Sustainable Business Network. NZI is looking forward to working with Glen and the SBN team to continue promoting the benefits of sustainable business practices across New Zealand," says Karl Armstrong, Executive General Manager, NZI.

**Ends**

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**About Sustainable Business Network**

The SBN is a business network of 700-plus members, with offices in Auckland, Tauranga, Wellington and Nelson. Sustainable businesses are cost-efficient and productive, attract and retain loyal customers, and offer a great place to work. SBN provides advice and support to help business succeed through sustainability. SBN supports its members year-round with networking opportunities, practical tools, training, and sustainability assessments. [www.sustainable.org.nz](http://www.sustainable.org.nz)

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