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Presentation by Unitel president to be rescheduled

Summary: The presentation by Dr. Ravi Randhava, president, COO and co-founder of Unitel, postponed from February 26, will be rescheduled, possibly in April. Watch for more details.

(February 12, 2007)-The presentation by Dr. Ravi Randhava, president, COO and co-founder of Unitel, postponed from February 26, will be rescheduled, possibly in April. Watch for more details. His visit is sponsored by the UMM chapter of MPIRG (Minnesota Public Interest Research Group).

Randhava is also a co-founder of the Xytel Group. He was a member of the Xytel-Bechtel Board of Directors, and vice president of technology. He pioneered the practical application of modular mini-plant technology, which eventually translated in many first-of-a-kind installations. Prior to the founding of the Xytel Group, Randhava worked at Union Carbide Corporation Research Center Tarrytown, N.Y., and before that at the Institute of Gas Technology. He leads all of Unitel’s technology development activities.

Randhava holds a doctoral degree in chemical engineering from the Illinois Institute of Technology, is the author of more than 30 papers published in technical journals and is named as the inventor in numerous patents.

In April 2005, the Minnesota Legislature approved a bonding bill that allocated $6 million to construct a biomass gasification demonstration and research facility at UMM. Using corn “stover,” or stalks, from the region’s farmers, this plant-scale project will generate steam to meet 89 percent of the campus’ heating and cooling needs. This biomass research and demonstration facility is designed as a community-scale project to combine local production and use of renewable energy with state-of-the-art research and demonstrations focusing on wind, biomass, biofuels, anaerobic digestion and renewable hydrogen.

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