



France and U.S. Gather in Austin to Address Climate Change

TKUniverse'15: Eco Showcases Innovative Applications for Emerging Clean Energy and Water Technologies for Micro-Communities as part of the French-American Climate Talks Ahead of COP 21 in Paris.

AUSTIN, Texas – October 13th, 2015 – At COP21, the Global Summit on Climate Change hosted by France next month in Paris, world leaders are expected to agree on a global climate deal. To contribute to COP 21, the French-American Climate Talks (FACTs) provide a unique opportunity to raise awareness, compare approaches and develop a dialogue on climate issues. As part of FACTs, TKUniverse: Eco (TKU: Eco) will focus on self-sustaining micro-communities, one of today's hot topics of the global warming debate.

This round table summit will take place on November 13, 2015, at the AT&T Executive Education and Conference Center of the University of Texas at Austin. The Honorable Steve Adler, Mayor of Austin, Texas and The Honorable Christophe Béchu, Mayor of Angers, the French Sister City of Austin, The Honorable Sujiro Seam, Consul General of France in Houston, and Michel Salomon, President & CEO of SM2D Inc., an Austin-based aggregator and facilitator of clean water and energy development in micro-communities worldwide, will make the case of climate action across the Atlantic.

At TKU: Eco, officials, entrepreneurs and business leaders from both France and the U.S. will share and showcase how French and American leaders are mobilizing and working together to form real-world solutions – not just policy – that bring clean energy and water to micro-communities of 30-300 people around the world. These technologies include self-sustaining ways to create and store energy, as well as to access and supply drinkable water to local communities.

COP21 and FACTs

COP 21, the 21st Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Changes, will be hosted by France in Paris on November 30 - December 11, 2015. At COP21, World leaders are expected to reach a universal agreement on climate, powerful and ambitious enough to keep global warming below 2°C.

To contribute to COP 21, the Service for Science and Technology of the French Embassy in Washington is organizing a series of French-American Climate Talks (FACTs <http://facts.france-science.org/>) across North- America. TKU: Eco is designed to bring together public leaders, such as the Mayors of Austin and Angers, to leverage the resources of science and technology and to aggregate the interest of the business community to act on climate change.

“When most people around told me ‘good luck organizing events on climate change in Texas!’, I thought let’s show them that Texas and France can initiate a fruitful dialogue and come together with innovative solutions to address climate change,” said Sujiro Seam, the Consul General of France in Houston.

For TKU: Eco, the Consulate General of France in Houston (<http://www.consulfrance-houston.org/>) is partnering with the French-American Business Council in Austin (FABCA <http://fabca-austin.org/>).

SM2D: Amplifying Ideas Differently

TKU: Eco will also spotlight SM2D's different approach to empowering self-sustainability. Through its environmental division – TK Self-Sufficient, Inc. – SM2D has aggregated a synergistic set of technologies from startups (ex. Urban Wind Design) to established companies (ex. Concurrent Design, Inc.).

It has then added its own IP, proprietary software, licensing and management, helping the TK Self-Sufficient division drive greater value by more efficiently scaling, amplifying and accelerating commercialization according to market demand. Empowering micro-communities around the world from Africa to Asia and South America to the Middle East through this synergistic approach, is SM2D's model brought to life.

“They say it takes a village to raise a child. It also takes collective innovation to raise a village,” said Michel Salomon of SM2D and a native of France. “Technology and startups, when brought together for a common cause, are greater than the sum of their parts. And when you add support of officials from France and the U.S. who share our vision and want to see action and empowerment in villages and micro-communities, great things can happen fast.”

SM2D focuses on applying innovation to five key global markets – environment, healthcare, financial, retail and events. It is based in Austin and was founded in 1983. TKU: Eco is part of SM2D's upcoming summit series that concentrates on showcasing new technologies in its core global markets.

For a full agenda, speakers, a list of officials attending and RSVP information for TKU: Eco, visit URL: austin.tk-universe.com

For more information, please contact: ecoaustin2015@tk-universe.com

FREE REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED AT <http://austin.tk-universe.com/>

LOCATION

AT&T Executive Education and Conference Center

1900 University Ave
Austin, TX 78705
8:30am to 12:00pm

AGENDA

9:00am

Introductions

The Honorable Sujiro Seam, Consul General of France in Houston
The Honorable Steve Adler, Mayor of Austin
The Honorable Christophe Bechu, Mayor of Angers
Michel Salomon, President & CEO of SM2D Inc.

9:45am

Clean Energy Climate Round Table

Moderated by Philippe Leonard, CEO of Urban Wind Design Inc.

10:45am

Clean Water Climate Round Table

Moderated by Tom Ortman, CEO of Concurrent Design Inc.

11:30am

Closing Statements

CONTACTS

For the Consulate General of France in Houston:

Veronique Lhemann
Attaché de Presse
veronique.lhemann@diplomatie.gouv.fr

For SM2D, Inc.:

press@sm2d.com

PARTNERS

