

# Nuts!



March 2009

News from the extreme edge of the energy revolution

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CoaLogix grabs the cover and feature story in March edition of CharlotteBiz

Full article at:  
<http://greatercharlottebiz.com/article.asp?id=871>

## Cleaner Coal is in the Air

Looks like good things are on the horizon for clean coal technology. It is likely the new EPA commissioner will have tighter mercury control laws in the pipeline and CAIR, the Clean Air Interstate Rule, is a good example of how fast change is coming to reduce the emissions at coal fired plants.

CAIR regulations, reinstated on December 23rd, are aimed at cutting emissions of unhealthy pollutants and particulate matter. As a result, power plants will be requiring year-round operation of SCRs rather than the 5-month operation currently required. When fully implemented in 2015, the current CAIR rule is projected to have reduced SO<sub>2</sub> emissions in these states by over 70 percent (5.4 million tons) and NO<sub>x</sub> emissions by over 60 percent (2 million tons) from 2003 levels.

Utilities were expected to be compliant by January 1, 2009 - Essentially utilities are scrambling to find solutions to meet these new regulations, and CoaLogix is positioned to be one of these providers.

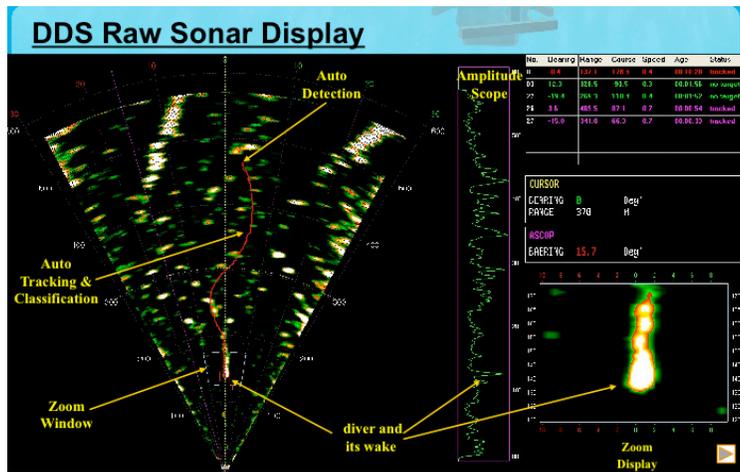
Metallifix is one such technology that puts CoaLogix at the front of the pack. On February 4th CoaLogix presented a paper on its new Metallifix technology at the 2009 EUEC Energy & Environment Conference. Metallifix helps with CoaLogix's CoalVision 360 program to help power plants reduce their environmental footprint and cost of compliance. Email John if you would like a copy of the presentation.

This additional technology marks an early success of CoaLogix expansion beyond SCR catalyst regeneration into one of the most challenging areas of environmental compliance for power plant owners – areas of compliance that owners are much more aware of with the new EPA commissioner and laws such as CAIR.

Check out CoaLogix's website to see their new video highlighting the company and its products (<http://www.scr-tech.com/>)

## DSIT has Major Wins in the Energy Industry

DSIT is creating a new market for security for coastal energy assets. There is over \$50 trillion of water based energy assets and they are all vulnerable to sabotage.



The company recently closed many important contracts where its technologies will be used to protect critical energy assets in this area. Recent contracts includes sale of its AquaShield™ Diver Detection Sonar (DDS) System (such as the image to the right) to an undisclosed EMEA government as well as a \$1.7M order for its AquaShield™ underwater security system to be used for the protection of a large energy terminal at an undisclosed location in Asia. Stay in tune for more contract wins...

## Gridsense is at the Heart of the Smart Grid

There is a lot of talk about the advent of the smart electrical grid. Most of the talk and the competition is centered around putting smart meters in residences to help utilities detect and prevent outages. Acorn helped create the smart grid market for home meters through Comverge. While everyone else is following our success in demand response we are busy helping create the next giant in this space.

Acorn has invested in Gridsense because it helps monitor the really big problem of the grid, reliability of the nations ageing transformer fleet. The average age of a transformer on the US electrical grid is 36 years old according to a study by Hartford Steam Boiler which insures the majority of the transformers in the US.

Gridsense has developed a cost effective transformer monitoring system, the TransformerIQ, which can help utilities monitor every failure mechanism and address such issues before a catastrophic failure occurs. This product is designed for easy retrofit applications allowing it to be applied to older, critical units in need of monitoring. GridSense is currently collaborating with a number of specialty device manufacturers for integration into the GridSense platform. For the new transformer market, GridSense is working with Beckwith Electric in launching an integrated offering where the Transformer IQ will be coupled with the Beckwith Transformer Control Circuitry.

## Promising Future for Coreworx

After Acorn's purchase of Coreworx mid-year 2009 the company announced major contracts in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter worth over CAD \$3.1M. More promising deals are expected in the future and experts are expecting much more capital to be pushed towards this industry. Matthew Simmons, best selling author of "Twilight in the Desert", and leading Houston investment banker is indicating the rebuilding of oil and gas infrastructure to be the worlds biggest construction project and requires \$100 trillion investment. E-mail John if you would like to see a copy of Matthew Simmon's presentation.

## Symphony at Acorn

Recently several companies have banded together under Acorn's umbrella: DSIT helped develop a relational database for CoaLogix to aid in the management of catalysts. Coreworx and DSIT collaborated on the marketing front to improve branding. CoaLogix provided Gridsense with an introduction to a major utility who had transformer issues that Gridsense could potentially solve.

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## Acorn's Diet Plan

Due to the global worldwide recession, Acorn has cut back on costs and is burying our Nuts for the warmer weather. We have cut back on accounting, legal, marketing and across board reduction in salaries in response to current conditions.

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## Acorn's Upcoming Events

John will be speaking at:

### **GridEcon 2009 – March 16 – 17, 2009**

“New Investment Opportunities in Smart Grid”

*About: The presentation will cover energy policy, green job creation and consumer advocacy.*

### **Wilmington Rotary – March 19, 2009**

“The Five Heresies of Energy” and How competitive advantage in energy is swinging decisively back to the United States”

*About: The pain of fuel volatility, infrastructure collapse and environmental crisis are accelerating the adoption of energy technology on a scale and pace never before seen in human history. American and specifically DE/PA entrepreneurs are leading the world in commercializing energy technology solutions. John will provide examples about how much of what we “know” about energy just isn't so and how the correct perspective on energy can accelerate the many changes that will ensure American prosperity for decades to come. John will also touch on Delaware business and political leaders that are making an impact on our energy security.*

### **Wall Street Green Trading Summit – April 1, 2009**

“REC Market Issues That Need to Be Resolved”

*About: Need to Upgrade the Grid for Renewable Energy*

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**Acorn Energy, Inc.**  
[www.acornenergy.com](http://www.acornenergy.com)

4 W. Rockland Road  
P.O. Box 9  
Montchanin, Delaware 19710  
Tel 302-656-1707

John Moore, President and CEO  
[jmoore@acornenergy.com](mailto:jmoore@acornenergy.com)

Julia Davis, Marketing Manager  
[jdavis@acornenergy.com](mailto:jdavis@acornenergy.com)

Jane Voisin, Assistant to the CEO  
[jvoisin@acornenergy.com](mailto:jvoisin@acornenergy.com)

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