



MSI Special Seminar

Accelerating the transition to electric vehicles

Dr Alan Finkel

Chief Technology Officer, Better Place Australia &
Chancellor, Monash University

1:00–2:00 pm, Friday, 22nd October 2010
Lecture Theatre S1, Building 25, Clayton Campus

All welcome. No RSVPs necessary.

Summary

In developed countries like Australia transport generates approximately 14% of all carbon dioxide emissions and accounts for nearly 70% of oil consumption. Electric vehicles are poised to dramatically reduce these figures. Investors, manufacturers, governments and consumers recognize the environmental benefits and performance advantages of electric vehicles, but to enable the smooth transformation of our transportation industry a number of underpinning resources such as batteries and recharging infrastructure must be optimized. Better Place Australia is preparing to deploy domestic, commercial and public charging stations, as well as rapid battery-switch stations, all of which will provide range extension to make electric vehicles practical. Alan's talk will discuss the factors that will accelerate the transition to electric vehicles.

Bio

Dr Alan Finkel is the Chancellor of Monash University and the Chief Technology Officer of Better Place Australia, a company that will provide clean energy to run Australia's future fleet of electric cars.

Previously, for twenty years, he ran Axon Instruments, a company that made electronic instruments for pharmaceutical research.

He has established Cosmos magazine, which promotes science awareness, and G magazine, which promotes environmental sustainability.

In addition he established the Australian Course in Advanced Neuroscience, and the STELR secondary school science program.

He also serves as the Chairman of the Australian Centre of Excellence for All-Sky Astrophysics.