

Special Session A

Investing in Renewable Energy

Born in 1970. Rolf Wüstenhagen graduated with a Master of Science degree in management science and engineering from the Berlin University of Technology in 1996. He received his Ph.D. in management from the University of St. Gallen in 2000.

Rolf Wüstenhagen started his professional career with SAM Sustainable Asset Management in 2000, where he helped to launch SAM Smart Energy AG, the first investment company dedicated to clean energy technologies. After the initial public offering (IPO) of SAM Smart Energy on the Swiss Stock Exchange in 2001, he joined SAM's private equity department, the leading European clean energy fund. During his tenure, he was involved in various successful investments in energy technologies, including the U.S. solar cell manufacturer Evergreen Solar and the Scottish wave energy specialist Ocean Power Delivery. In 2003, he embarked on an academic career and was appointed Vice Director of the Institute for Economy and the Environment at the University of St. Gallen. He teaches sustainability management, venture capital and entrepreneurship, with a focus on renewable energy. In 2005 and 2007, respectively, he was a visiting professor at the University of British Columbia and Wilfrid Laurier University, both in Canada.

Rolf Wüstenhagen is member of the Swiss Federal Energy Research Commission, an independent expert committee advising the Swiss government on public energy research and development, and also a member of the Board of the European Green Electricity Network (EUGENE). He has published widely, including papers in leading academic journals and books for an investor, entrepreneurial and policy maker audience.



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