

News Release

Conservation Conversation

April 17, 2009

KINGSTON, ON – CEO and President Geoff Salter of Aztech Associates Inc. has announced the role the Aztech In-Home Display can play in carbon reduction through Ontario deployments, and the jobs created through Aztech's partnerships with Ontario businesses.

Salter stated that a homeowner using an In-Home Display can expect to see a carbon reduction of 0.6 tons over the course of one year, stemming from a Hydro One study which showed a baseline savings of 5%. With 4.2 million homes in Ontario using smart meters in conjunction with an Aztech IHD, there would be 2.5 million less tons of carbon in our atmosphere. This is equivalent to removing 420,000 vehicles from the road.

Aztech also announced that through its partnerships with Ontario businesses, it will provide work for 37 full-time people just by manufacturing IHDs this year. Further, the company expects to grow from the 15 people at the end of last year to 24 by the end of 2009, and to 31 by the end of 2010. This would be a total gain in jobs over the next two years of 16.

Together, these accomplishments reflect the province's initiative to build renewable energy, encourage energy conservation and create green jobs. These announcements were made during a tour of the facility by the Hon. George Smitherman, Deputy Premier and Minister of Energy and Infrastructure, and the Hon. John Gerretsen, Minister of the Environment, on April 16.

The Aztech In-Home Display is an easy-to-use tool that shows consumers their energy usage and estimated costs in real-time. The sweeping motion and changing colours of Aztech's exclusive light bar provide instant notification of time-of-use periods, while detailed information is displayed in a graphical window.

"Ontario will achieve energy independence much earlier than anyone imagined, and IHDs will do their part by empowering customers to make wise energy decisions," said Salter. "We at Aztech are very proud to play a role in tackling Ontario's energy challenges," added Gardner McBride, Vice-President of Business Development.

As the face of the Smart Grid, the Aztech In-Home Display helps utilities to reach their conservation goals. The device has already been deployed by utilities throughout North America, while samples have been sent to Ireland and Australia, and trials across Europe and the Asian Rim are in active discussion.

Founded in 1993, Aztech Associates Inc. is one of North America's leading designers and manufacturers of smart grid products for the home. Aztech currently employs 15 people at its Kingston headquarters and design centre, and all of the IHDs are manufactured in Québec and Ontario. Aztech Associates Inc. has offices in both Kingston, Ontario and Annapolis, Maryland.

- 30 -

For more information, please contact:
Gardner McBride
Vice President of Business Development
(613) 384-9400 ext 31 or (905) 984-7879