

# Institute for Sustainable Communities



## An Introduction

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Introduction to the

## **Institute for Sustainable Communities**

including descriptions of the projects:

**EcOasis**      The Pod Architecture, Configuration, System

**I-Trans**      The Concept, the X-Car, the X-Prize Competition

**Orbis**              The Concept, the Architecture, the Plan

**Futures Gateway**      The Children, the Schools, the System

# Sustaining Our World Requires A Global Revolution



One Seed, One Drop, One Pod at a Time

## EcOasis



The EcOasis Pod is a modular, adjustable, portable, reconfigurable package that provides, upon deployment into a village, town or any other setting, a center (which can be permanent) for:

- pure drinking water
- energy source for electricity and mechanical (rotary) power
- distribution of anti-microbial, anti-viral bioprotectant treatment for contact surfaces
- public center for health monitoring and diagnostics through biosensors
- satellite-based internet communications center
- educational multimedia training center
- temporary shelter

It is “life support and community (re)building in a box,” it deploys in a few hours, and it is very inexpensive and easy to use and to maintain.

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## EcOasis



Each EcOasis becomes part of the Pod Network (PodNet) and is “live” and ready for operation, including those that are warehoused (stationary or mobile) for emergency needs. Some Pods may be available for instant relocation upon demand in emergencies elsewhere in a country or region.

Each EcOasis is administered by the PodNet team even though it may be operated and maintained by a local community or by an NGO, public govt. unit or a private company.

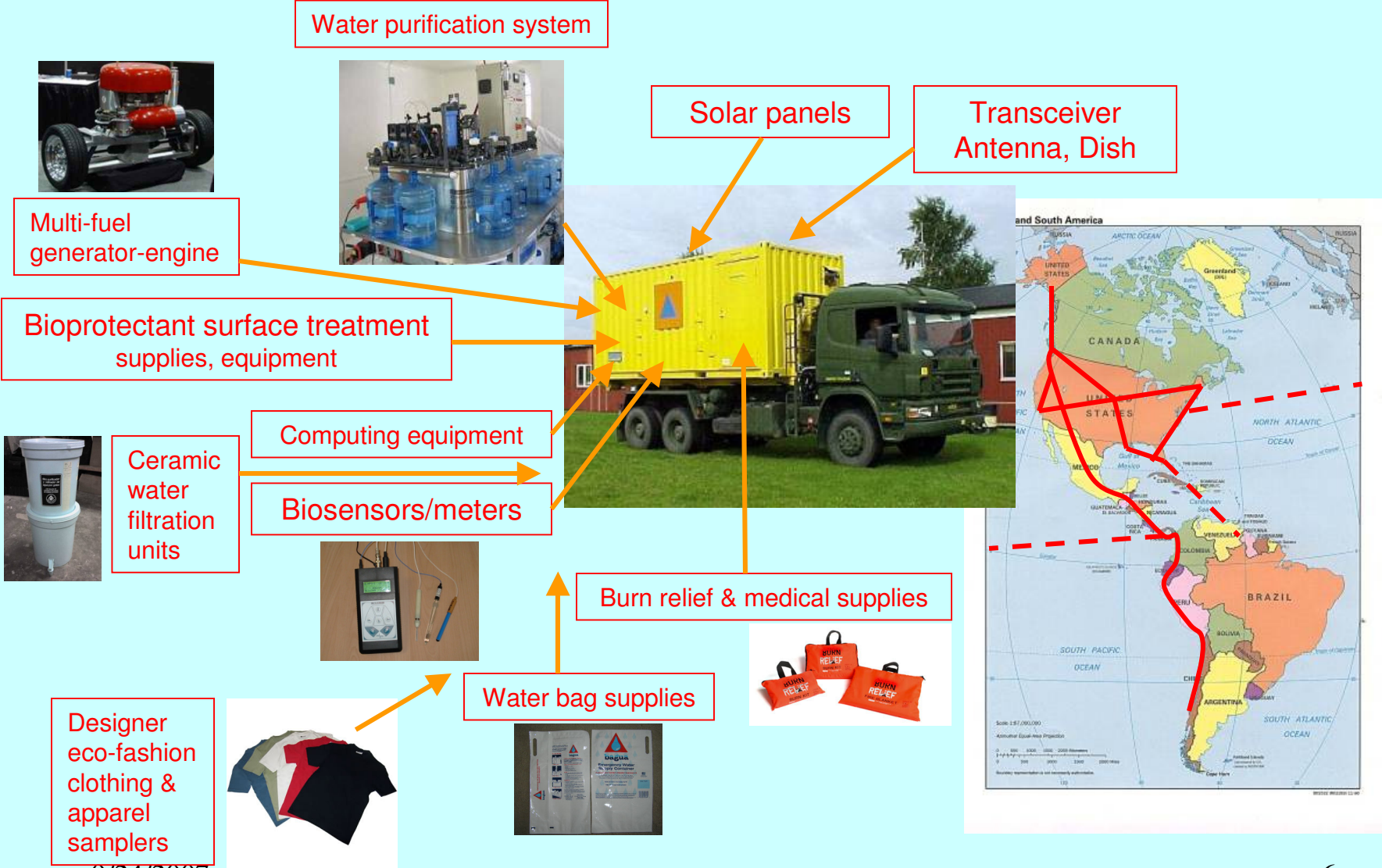
Each EcOasis has one or more sponsors for its life-cycle cost (components, assembly/integration, shipment, installation, maintenance). These are private and public, individual and organizational. The Institute for Sustainable Communities (ISC) will administer the financing and sponsorship of all EcOases including the turn-over to maintaining organizations and the post-turn-over maintenance of information, training, and supply-chain communications.

ISC also performs educational and public awareness functions including the operation of the EcOasis Mobile Pod.

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# The EcOasis Mobile Pod

*Have Oasis, Go (& show) Anywhere*



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# Getting from Here to There Takes More than Different Fuels for the Same old Cars and Roads



It Takes an Intelligent Rethinking of the Whole Road

## I-Trans



A new type of automobile and a new type of usage and ownership

A new(old) type of engine that answers with solutions for the gaps in alternative and hybrid engines for cars

New types of lanes

New types of driving habits

and an altogether new way to integrate highways and mass transit for both short-range commuting and long-range regional and cross-country travel

The heart of the car is in the revolutionary new multi-fuel engine and also in a radically new type of car body and interior plus the high-degree of intelligent informatics both inside and outside the individual vehicle.

# Sensible Community ≠ Suburbia ≠ CellBlock



This is a (R)evolution that allows “Luxury” with “Eco”

## Orbis



Homes and neighborhoods designed as modules and building blocks in an environment that incorporates, not replaces, the natural eco-balance.

A center that is a center of activity including an agora, a hub of interpersonal activities. A physically green center that is both Oasis and Agora.

Community-based energy distribution and recapture, particularly for heating, cooling, and water needs.

Green – and functional – and contributing to luxury that is not consumptive.

Highly integrated energy, informatics and transportation alternatives to meet needs of multiple generations including youth, workforce, at-home populations.

Minimizing the needs for intra-community mechanized travel.

Diversity in size and style of living and working spaces.

## Orbis

### Luxury + Eco, Gold + Green

Wellness, Leisure, Getting Organized, Less Stress, Less Chaos,  
More Fun !

Giving more people more luxury-eco lifestyle resources enhanced by the use of information and knowledge that is already (almost) in reach, just not organized or presented the best ways...

Reminders, hints, suggestions, who's nearby, who can stop and get the kids, can I find the nearest or the shortest – a lot of things can happen even while we drive without having to take mind or eyes off the road.

It all contributes to Wellness at home and in the heart.

# Futures Gateway



Turning Gaming into Learning into Meaning for Kids

## Futures Gateway



The Gateway is a web-based community, technically a CMS or portal with extensive video, multimedia and multilingual capability, for children in schools to participate in team-based learning projects.

The projects make use of gaming and entertainment features and incorporate a competitive aspect that results in a number of types of winners such that all active participating teams will be winners in tangible ways.

Each team is formed voluntarily and with the help of mentors. Each team consists of children – generally in ages from 10 to 16 - from diverse cultural, national, academic and interest backgrounds. The mentors are from science, business, education and other professional fields.

The projects are on different themes, with strong inputs from the participating students, within three general categories:

- (1) Energy and the environment – linked with ISC's ongoing EcOasis Pod project
- (2) Transportation – linked with ISC's ongoing I-Trans project (especially the X-Car)
- (3) Community – linked with ISC's ongoing Orbis project

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**“Never underestimate  
the **power of an idea**  
whose time has come.”**

**Helmut Leube, BMW**

**“Especially if it is **overdue**  
and has been resisted .”**

**Anonymous**

## What is the Institute for Sustainable Communities (ISC)?

ISC is the non-profit 501c(3) organization established in 2007 in order to facilitate, coordinate, manage four ambitious projects that are integrated components working together to advance the growth and renaissance of truly sustainable communities worldwide:

- (1) the installation and interaction among EcOasis Pods (Nests) worldwide
- (2) the design and advancement of the I-Trans new automobile and car-rail transportation model, and in particular the advancement of the X-Car, a 2-person urban runabout/commuter vehicle, initially through the competition forum of the Automotive X-Prize (AXP) offered by the X-Prize Foundation
- (3) the design and advancement of the Orbis new community concept and architectural planning model, incorporating EcOasis and I-Trans in its functions and service features for residents
- (4) the advancement of the Futures Gateway gaming-learning team-building experience for youths in diverse cultural and educational environments

## How will the Institute Implement and Sustain these Projects?

1. Committed Mentors and Champions from Business, Industry, Foundations
2. Private Foundation – funds development from corporations, individuals, and public sources
3. Alliance Partners – key corporations and component providers
4. EcOasis Pod components originate with corporate partners
5. EcOasis Pods to be co-funded and turned-over to organizations administering services in recipient localities
6. I-Trans and Orbis projects are to be implemented by corporate partners
7. Futures Gateway operates in tandem and is based upon the activity of the other projects

# Institute Structure and MakeUp

1. Private non-profit corporation (Virginia, 2007)
2. Applications underway for 501c(3) status as a charitable organization
3. Executive Team + Board of Directors
4. Volunteer Force
5. Support sources – individual donations, corporate grants, foundation grants, public grants
6. Expenditures
  1. small core staff
  2. EcOasis Pod expenses for installations
  3. X-Car development
  4. Futures Gateway website and annual competition

# Acknowledgements

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BMW

3M

GE

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