



## Outlook Conference Delivers on the Promise

Whether you are interested in politics, the economy, green technology or just going to a half-day event in a ballroom and actually having a good time, by all accounts this year's Outlook Conference delivered.

Participants heard how Better Place founder and CEO Shai Agassi's world-changing vision of electric cars is rapidly taking shape, even right here in the Bay Area. Governor Schwarzenegger had a frank discussion with Council CEO Jim Wunderman about water, California's crazy politics, his future plans, an upcoming movie cameo, the Constitution Convention (a "brilliant idea" he wants to help lead), and the May 19 ballot propositions. [The members and Executive Committee of the Bay Area Council resoundingly [endorsed Propositions 1A-FI](#)].

Narayan Nallicheri, Booz & Co., gave a detailed presentation of a new report about how Bay Area companies are responding to the recession, and preparing for the economic upswing. Then corporate leaders Michael Covarrubias, TMG

Partners, Reyad Fezzani, BP Solar, George Halvorson, Kaiser Permanente, and Gary Rogers, Levi Strauss & Co., responded to the report with their own experiences and opinions that swung from flat out hilarious to deadly serious. Finally, Mary Huss, San Francisco Business Times, expertly plumbed the depths of California's current political and economic state, and the heights we might yet achieve, with panelists Mark Baldassare, PPIC, Antonio Gonzalez, Southwest Voter Project, Bob Hertzberg, California Forward, and Paul Saffo, a Futurist.

## Story of the Week

The SF Chronicle wrote [an excellent story](#) on the Booz & Company-Bay Area Council Economic Institute [study released](#) today on how our region's recession response compares globally.

## Quote of the Week

"He's hurt the brand." – Former California Republican Party chairman Shawn Steel, on his plan to ask Mike Villines [to resign as Assembly GOP](#) leader over the budget deal.