



The Policy Studies Organization

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..... Pressing Issues Amid the Political Maelstrom

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Panel Speakers

Andy Kunz, *President & CEO, US High Speed Rail Association*

Topic

"High Speed Rail as the Centerpiece of Sustainable Transportation for America"

This presentation outlines the global high speed rail network and how many countries already have these systems, and how having high speed rail makes an entire nation more efficient and competitive. America is really at a disadvantage on the global scale by not having high speed rail and being so dependent on oil. We are only 5% of the world's population, but use 25% of the world's oil, and this is not because we are more advanced, but because our transportation system is the most wasteful in the world. Compared to western Europe, we use about 6-8 times more oil per person, per day - mainly because we are mostly moving around in single occupant SUV size vehicles and our cities are spread out requiring driving for everything. A large percent of Western Europe moves around by modern electric trains.