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**Biographical Sketch:  
Norbert Klebl, Master Developer**

Norbert Klebl's career is a study in corporate achievement: partner with one of the world's largest international management consulting firms, and chief financial officer of one of Austria's largest industrial companies, with both a European engineering degree and an MBA from Columbia University. But Klebl's latest role – that of visionary environmental master-planner directly responsible for one of the largest net-zero energy communities in the United States – is his proudest professional achievement yet.

While corporate America is relatively new to the sustainability bandwagon, Klebl comes by it naturally through a mix of his European roots and training. And to get a glimpse of his passion for the practice, take a “quick trip” to Upolu on the Samoan islands to find out how Klebl began developing self-sustainable environments. Along with a partner, he built Virgin Cove Resort into a self-sustained vacation village. A photovoltaic system produces energy on-site and circulates rain water collected in a cistern; coconut leaf mats stand in for walls, and thatched roofs combined with ocean breezes provide interiors that are equally comfortable at 90 degrees or 70 degrees. The concept works, earning the location a recent spot in *Islands* magazine's “Best of the World List” for top-secret beaches.

While you won't find thatched roofs and coconut leaves at the Geos Neighborhood, near Boulder, Colo., Klebl's perseverance and commitment to sustainability are evident in every planned detail – right down to the scientifically engineered awnings that both cool in the summer and allow solar heat to penetrate during in the winter.

“Geos is the Prius of homes,” Klebl often says. “It is a simple solution that enables consumers to lessen their impact on the planet, while enjoying beautiful and comfortable surroundings.”

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