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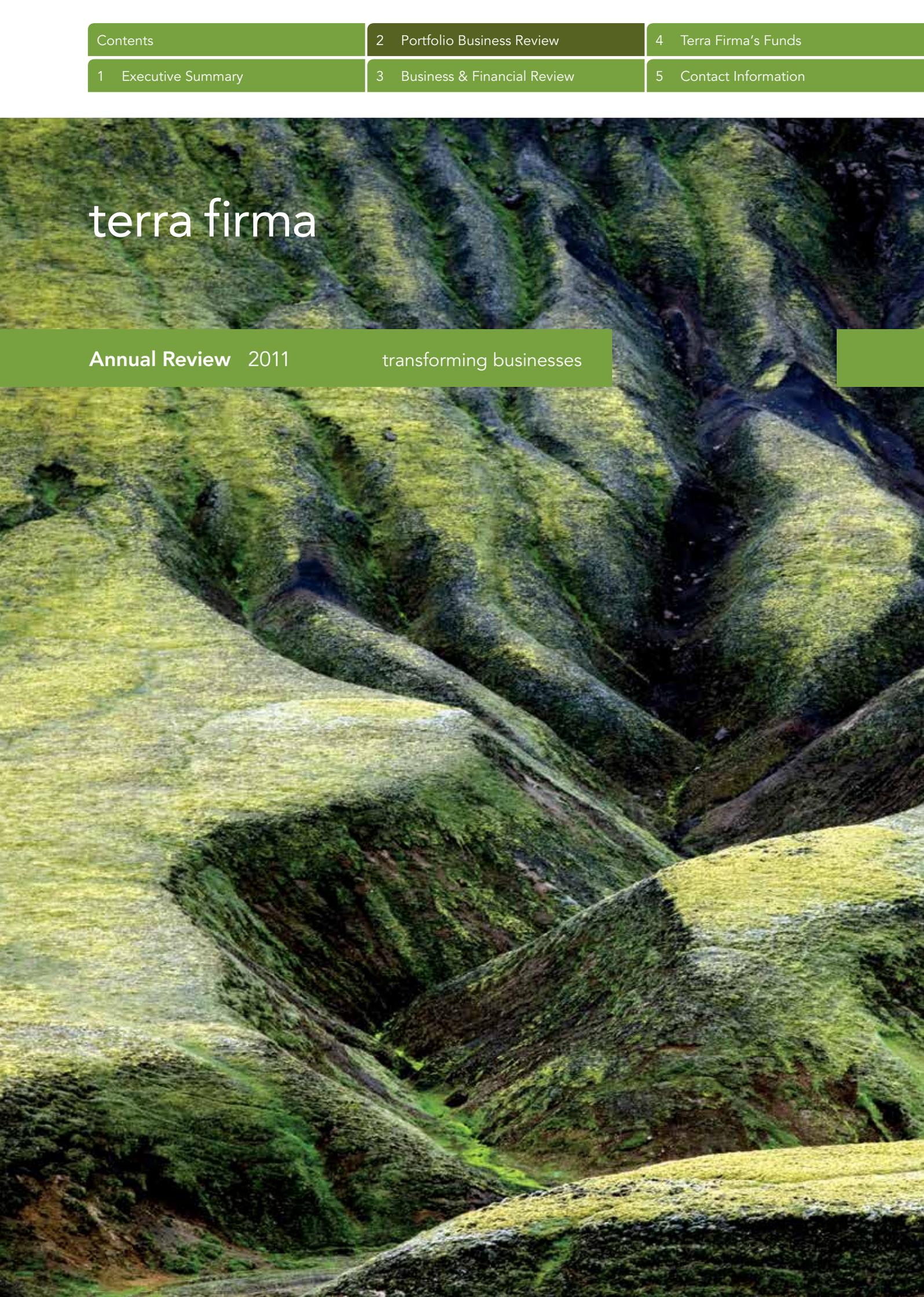
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Annual Review 2011

transforming businesses



Excerpt from the 2011 Annual Review
EverPower Human Interest Article

A WIN-WIN PROGRAMME FOR STUDENTS AND STAFF



Participants in the EverPower internship programme at work

In recent years, EverPower has made some big changes to its internship programme in Pittsburgh. In contrast to the more usual short-term work experience placements, it now brings 'co-op' students into frontline roles in the business throughout the academic year.

The result is a win-win situation for everyone involved. In the words of EverPower employee and programme liaison Charles Vogel, who mentors programme participants alongside his day job of specialising in transmission lines and load impacts to the grid, "We're giving back to the community, students acquire valuable experience and our employees work with students whose enthusiasm, perspective, and efforts are invaluable."

EverPower has long-established ties with several universities in the Pittsburgh region, with interns coming to the company from Duquesne, Point Park and Carnegie Mellon. The co-op arrangement, with its higher degree of collaboration, came about when EverPower formed an alliance with the University of Pittsburgh's Swanson School of Engineering.

Under the programme, there is at least one student at the company each semester. The students start as sophomores or juniors and spend several years at the company, working with senior employees, earning a stipend and receiving school credit. Since the programme started, co-op students have worked across EverPower functions and gained a wide variety of experience.

Rivka Rosenthal is in her second rotation in the Wind Resource Group, testing software that stores and filters wind data in order to generate reports. "I've developed practical skills," she says, "and learned how to communicate clearly by writing technical specifications and providing detailed explanations of our work." The rotation has even prompted her to switch her studies at Pitt from Civil to Mechanical Engineering.

Krystina Teoh, a Mechanical Engineering graduate of Carnegie Mellon University, is currently a full-time intern in the Commercial Group where she is developing tools for energy market price and load data.

Eric Brichler has been with EverPower since the start of the co-op programme. He is a fourth-year student at Pitt with a double major in Civil Engineering and History and plans to work in the wind or renewable energy sector. After a rotation in the Wind Resource Group, he spent a summer at the Highland site. "I was exposed to actual construction," he says. "We built foundations and roads, and worked with local government and residents. It's been a great experience."

The popularity of the programme means that the ties between EverPower and Pittsburgh universities – and the benefits for everyone involved – look set to keep growing for years to come.