

Careers Convention

2 August 2017

John Britten Foyer – 5pm Programme

Time	Activity
From 3.00pm	Industry set up
5:00pm	Commencement Refreshments, industry exhibition and networking opportunities.
5:30pm – 5:35 pm	Introduction Alan Wood (Lecturer at ECE Department and GREEN Grid Principal Investigator).
5:35pm – 6:00 pm	Electricity Industry Ryno Verster, General Manager: Asset Management and Network Transformation at Powerco, presents an overview of the electricity industry, the different sectors that comprise the industry and the diverse range of opportunities for electrical engineering graduates.
6:00 pm – 6:30 pm	Interactive Industry Panel Discussion (Q&A) – moderated by Juliet Clendon (EEA) Representatives from the different electricity sectors (Generation, Transmission, Distribution, Consulting and Research) provide insights about their journey and their career paths, and answer questions from the audience.
6:30pm – 7:00 pm	Refreshments, industry exhibition and networking opportunities continue.

Thank you to our Power Engineering Excellence Trust members



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Speakers Profile

Keynote Speaker (Distribution)



Ryno Verster General Manager Asset Management and Network Transformation, Powerco

BEng (Elec), MEng (Elec), MBA

Ryno heads the asset management of Powerco's electricity network business, with responsibility for the company's asset management strategy and network investment plans. He is also responsible for overseeing the transformation of the electricity network in response to emerging energy options and opportunities.

Before joining Powerco in 2015, he held executive and senior management roles at Vector. In addition, he has extensive international experience in engineering and management consulting, advising on energy regulation, asset management, asset valuation, due diligence studies for mergers and acquisitions, and engineering design and project management.

Ryno has served on several industry working groups and bodies, and is currently a member of the New Zealand Smart Grid Forum and the Electricity Networks Association's Smart Technology Working Group.



Panel Discussion - Moderator



Electricity Engineers'
Association



Juliet Clendon

Technical Advisor, Electricity Engineer Association (EEA)

Juliet joined the EEA as the Technical Advisor in June 2015. At the EEA she works with the Asset Management Group (AMG) to provide leadership and guidance for effective asset management for the electricity supply industry. The development of the Guide for the Connection of Small-Scale Inverter-Based Distributed Generation has been overseen by the AMG and Juliet has been involved with the industry consultation on the draft guide.

Previous to joining the EEA, Juliet spent 4 years working as a graduate engineer at AECOM working in the Transmission & Distribution and Generation teams. Juliet has a BE(hons) from Canterbury University in Electrical and Electronic Engineering and was a recipient of the EEA, Power System Consulting (PSC) and Energy Education Trust scholarships.

Panel Discussion - Speakers



Transmission

Adam Henderson

Regional Services Manager South Island, Transpower



Adam joined the electricity industry as an apprentice industrial electrician, specialising in control systems and manufacturing plant within the dairy and pharmaceutical industries. During this period he attained NZCE before leaving the work force to study towards a BE Electrical degree at the University of Canterbury.

In 1996 he joined Transpower, in Palmerston North, working in operations and maintenance as a Support Engineer. Through successive restructures, Adam has continued his maintenance focus with roles as Maintenance Manager in Palmerston North before moving to a Team Leader Stations/HVDC role in Christchurch to expand knowledge on the HVDC.

Adam's current role is Regional Services Manager leading the South Island station's maintenance team to deliver the Grid Performance business plan, passing on his technical knowledge to others and continuing to develop his people and asset management skills.



Generation

Ben Burnell

Team leader of Mechanical Engineering Team, Mercury



Ben graduated from the University of Canterbury in 2009 with a BE(Hons) Mechanical. He started working for Mercury (formerly Mighty River Power) as a graduate mechanical engineer. He completed the IPENZ-recognised graduate programme after two years. He was recently promoted to Team Leader for the Mechanical Engineering Team, responsible for generating plant at our hydro and geothermal power stations.



meridian

Research & Generation

Yanosh Irani

Project Electrical Engineer, Meridian Energy



Yanosh is an electrical engineer at Meridian Energy. He has spent the past year working as a site engineer and commissioning manager on a large multi disciplinary project at the Ohau A hydroelectric power station. Yanosh is a past EPECentre undergraduate and post graduate scholar. He recently completed his PhD in high voltage equipment design.



Consulting

Tiantian Xiao

Power System Engineer, Beca



Tiantian graduated from the University of Canterbury at the end of 2016 with a BE(Hons) First Class Honours. She was an EPECentre Scholar in 2015 (2nd pro) and 2016 (3rd Pro). She was also an EEA Scholarship recipient in 2016 (3rd pro). During 2015-2016, she completed a research project on thermal issues of underground distribution pillar, which was presented at the EEA Apex Conference with Hamer Limited. Tiantian is employed as a graduate Power Systems Engineer by Beca.