

GAS NEW ZEALAND

Representing New Zealand's Gas Industry

smart. clean. efficient.



Published monthly by the LPG and Gas Associations of NZ

July 2012

Welcome to Gas New Zealand, a joint publication of the LPG Association of NZ and the Gas Association of NZ.

Gas New Zealand will be published regularly as part of the industry's efforts to encourage the direct use of natural gas and LPG into households and small business.

Using natural gas and LPG as a direct energy source offers numerous cost, environmental and energy efficiency benefits, and Gas New Zealand hopes to educate consumers and policy makers about the many advantages of making wider use of this strategic energy asset.

BUREAU.CO'S SOFTWARE GETS NOVA ENERGY'S GAS PIPE LOCATIONS ONLINE

BureauCo and Nova Energy have joined forces to provide utility operators and contracting organisations online access to Nova's gas pipeline asset location data.

The new technology, named PLAN.IT.road, provides access to online maps which indicate the location of Nova Energy gas lines around the country.

The service uses BureauCo's PLAN.IT software solution, which allows registered users to access geospatial imagery.

"PLAN.IT not only makes gas line locations available, but also provides a fully automated enquiry management system," says Nova Energy Technical Manager, Craig Muirhead.

"This is a move to increase productivity in an area where consents, data and damage can cause major delays. It brings a number of communication and approval streams together, allowing for a more efficient, co-operative service."

BureauCo Director, Jim Coe, believes PLAN.IT.road is a beneficial tool for local councils, following the introduction of the National Code of Practice for Utility Operators Access to Transport Corridors.

"On January 1 of this year, regulations came into effect to improve roading corridor management processes. Councils and utilities now have a series of obligations for processing requirements from which they cannot deviate," he says.

"In many cases, councils do not have the tools, systems or histories needed to meet their obligations.

"PLAN.IT.road is fast, comprehensive and complete – a one stop shop for enabling any organisation to work within the transport corridor."

Mr Muirhead says productivity has greatly increased following the implementation of PLAN.IT.road.

"As a result of visually displaying our asset location, direct communication between Nova and contractors has significantly reduced," he says.

"This saves time and increases productivity for all parties. Now, when direct communication occurs, it is focused on providing detailed plans, requesting mark outs and/or stand-overs.

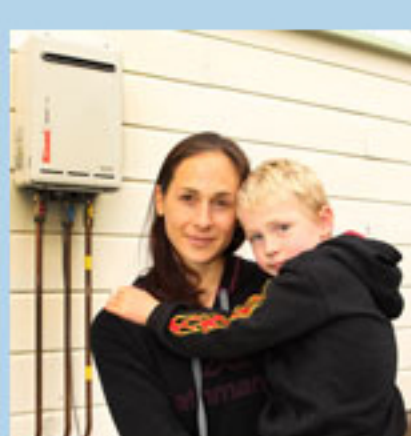
"It's a win-win scenario ensuring health and safety requirements are met and risk is minimised."

For further information on PLAN.IT.road, please visit <http://www.bureau.co.com/plan-it-road/>.



WINNER OF BEAUTY OF GAS COMPETITION THRILLED WITH PRIZES

A winter full of warm evenings is just around the corner for a lucky Glenfield woman – who has won a warm up for winter prize package thanks to Gas New Zealand.



Emma Henderson and her husband, James, have won a Rinnai Infinity VT26 continuous flow water heater to deliver endless hot water efficiently throughout winter through Gas New Zealand's Beauty of Gas promotion in The New Zealand Herald.

Mrs Henderson says she is thrilled with the new Rinnai water heating system she received as part of her prize package, which has made a real difference to their family.

"We have three preschoolers who are constantly muddy and needing showers and baths so to have a reliable source of hot water to warm them up is fantastic," says Mrs Henderson.

"The people who came and installed the water heating system were lovely and so respectful – we were thoroughly impressed."

Mrs Henderson qualified for entry into the competition by answering three easy questions about the beauty of gas, including describing gas in three words and answering where gas is available in New Zealand and how many homes across the country use gas.

The promotion also included a new fireplace for the winner – creating a warm up for winter prize pack worth over \$10,000.

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LPG CENTRAL HEATING PERFORMANCE TO BE ENHANCED

Gas appliance supplier and installer, SafeGas, has recently launched a new device to boost LPG performance for residential central heating in New Zealand.

SafeGas Craftsman Gasfitter, Dave Farrimond, says the new Vapor Master eliminates issues with butane that come about with cold weather.

"In New Zealand we use a mix of propane and butane to make LPG, however when the weather is cold, we naturally want to draw more on the gas to keep ourselves warm," he says.

"LPG can quickly refrigerate itself to sub-zero, then the butane doesn't change to gas, it just sits there.

"The butane becomes dormant, the central heating burns off the propane, then turns off prematurely due to the lack of gas pressure. LPG tanks must absorb more heat to keep the gas mix flowing consistently."

"The Vapor Master energises LPG by recycling otherwise waste flue gas, which is essentially warm water vapour. The Vapor Master exchanges this warmth back to the LPG cylinders, reversing the refrigeration effect. The resulting supply of LPG mix is sufficient to run a residential home with central heating, hot water, and cooking, from just two 45 kg cylinders."

Mr Farrimond says the Vapor Master greatly improves LPG central heating.

"In volume terms, butane has 25% greater heat content than its partner, propane.

"New Zealand LPG is mainly distributed with approximately 40% volume butane. At this ratio, more than half the heat available in the cylinder lies in the butane. It is vital for so many reasons to lift off this resource."

Mr. Farrimond believes gas should be the first choice in central heating.

"I see the Vapor Master as an integral part of LPG central heating. We can use all the energy in the cylinder and maximise value to the user, while promoting combustion safety and efficiency. Returning empty cylinders reduces logistics, weigh back credits and the need to remove or remix the butane, enhancing LPG as an effective and reliable source of heating.

"Ultimately, I would love to see more confidence and a significant increase in the uptake of LPG residential central heating. It's a great resource."

GAS NZ INDUSTRY FORUM PLANNING UPDATE

Planning is now well underway for the 2012 Gas NZ Industry Forum, to be held at the Novotel in Rotorua from Wednesday 17 – Friday 19 October.

Energy Minister, Phil Heatley, has been asked to open the Forum. A range of interesting keynote speakers have been confirmed, including John Kidd, Steve Bielby, David Robinson and Dr Rosemary Quinn.

This year we are trialling an on-line registration system, which is anticipated to be made live by early August. This will allow payment by credit card, while also maintaining an invoicing option for those who require it.

For organisations looking to gain commercial exposure from the Forum, a number of the Silver and Bronze Sponsorship packages are still available to be taken up, and there are still Trade Display stand places available.

We recommend you consider booking your accommodation now – please go to <http://www.lpga.org.nz/news/industry.php> for the accommodation form. We look forward to meeting you at the Forum!

For further information on remaining sponsorship opportunities or Trade Display spaces, please contact either Peter Gilbert or Colin Lewis at the LPG Association. They can be contacted on (04) 914 1765 or via email at peter@lpga.org.nz or p.gilbert@qanz.org.nz.

COLD WEATHER ENCOURAGES GAS SALES

The recent spate of cold weather has created good business for some gas appliance manufacturing companies.

Two of them, Rinnai and Aber, believe the exceptionally cold weather has increased demand for gas heating products.

Rinnai Managing Director, Ray Ferner, says the cold weather has increased their sales.

"Certainly we have noticed a strong reaction to the cold weather, with gas heater and gas fire sales well ahead of our expectations," he says.

"Sales for Rinnai's heating product line, energy saver, are up 30% on June last year, with a similar increase for the year in total. Gas is a great energy source for delivering a lot of heat very quickly."

Aber General Manager, Dennis Turton, says that while they have seen an increase in sales for gas appliances, the gas heating option is not as prevalent as other heating avenues.

"We have seen a rise in the sale of gas appliances. However, wood fires still appear to be more popular than the gas option," he says.

"We're also seeing some movement towards people trying to heat their entire homes. People are now looking to a whole-home heating system, which could be an opportunity for gas. The whole-home gas heating option is somewhat an untapped market."

Gas New Zealand is published monthly by Four Winds Communications for the LPG Association and Gas Association of New Zealand.

The views expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the LPGA, or GANZ. The LPGA can be contacted by telephone (04) 914 1765, fax (04) 914 1766, or mail PO Box 1776, Wellington.

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