

The Beauty of Gas

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Welcome to Gasline, which is produced by Gas New Zealand.

Gasline is published regularly as part of the industry's efforts to encourage the direct use of natural gas and LPG into households and small businesses.

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

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United voice vital to gas industry development

A united industry voice towards regulatory bodies is fundamental in helping shape the future of the industry, says GANZ chair, Stuart Dickson.

Stuart is urging GANZ members to provide the regulators with clear industry positions on quality and safety, especially given the Commerce Commission will be consulting on the price-quality settings for the next five-year regulatory period that starts in 2017.

The Commerce Commission regulates the price-quality path, to ensure network owners are charging a reasonable amount and are meeting service standards in terms of quality and safety.

"They'll be looking for advice on what's important for industry in terms of price, quality and safety," Stuart says.

"GANZ has a real role to play in this situation. We need to work constructively to inform the Commerce Commission about quality and safety standards."

Stuart says although GANZ has always played a role in setting the safety and technical standards and codes of practice for individuals, their direct involvement with regulatory bodies needs improving.

He says GANZ has recently heightened its involvement with Standards NZ and Australia, and is looking towards a stronger, overarching approach to communicating with regulatory bodies.

"We need to ensure the industry develops how we want it to, and to do that we need to be on the same page and talking with one voice – it's much more efficient, and enhances our credibility," he says.

"It's about bringing industry's thoughts together and devising the right messages in response to consultation."

Stuart says this makes for a more powerful standpoint than companies communicating their views individually.

"We urge members to take involvement with GANZ seriously. Consultation is very important, because it gives us an opportunity to talk with a unified voice."



GANZ Chair, Stuart Dickson

Michael Woodhouse – Minister for Workplace Relations and Safety

I've been Minister for Workplace Relations and Safety for six months now. This is a change of name from Labour Minister, and reflects a change of focus by the National Government with the new emphasis on "safety". This is not by accident and shows that workplace safety is a priority for this portfolio and for me.

I'm very pleased to be charged with finishing the passage of the Health and Safety Reform Bill and rolling out the Working Safer reforms that are aimed at reducing New Zealand's workplace injury and death toll by 25 per cent by 2020.

This is the most significant reform in 20 years and represents a major step change in New Zealand's approach to health and safety. It recalibrates our approach in order to get New Zealand working smarter, targeting risk and working together to improve performance in workplace health and safety.

The new regulatory framework means a different approach to the management of hazardous substances which will ease compliance costs for businesses and mean they can integrate management of hazardous substances into business-wide health and safety culture and planning.

Firstly it will mean that the majority of businesses that use hazardous substances will only have to engage with one agency – WorkSafe – for complete and integrated information of workplace health and safety requirements, including hazardous substances. Previously three agencies were involved. This will make it much easier for firms to understand their obligations and comply. Firms whose core business is the introduction of hazardous substances into the market will continue to deal with the HSNO regime.

The hazardous substances regulations being drafted will continue the current workplace use requirements prescribed in HSNO regulations. This includes those applying to liquefied petroleum gas – and any additional requirements or variations set in HSNO regulations, group standards, reassessments, and approvals.

These regulations will also incorporate several changes to codify existing good practice, in some cases based on the provisions of the Australian Model regulations.

We will consolidate and simplify these requirements to the extent possible during the drafting process for the regulations. However, my officials will take a more considered review of any transferred provisions, within two years of commencement, to ensure they are fit-for-purpose and to simplify them for duty holders as much as we can. This more detailed review may investigate whether the standard for the storage and handling of liquefied petroleum gas (AS/NZS 1596) could be used as an alternative to compliance with the current regulatory requirements that relate to low pressure liquefiable gases.

The bill is currently being considered by a Parliamentary select committee and I expect it to pass later this year with the changes coming into force several months after that to give businesses time to prepare.

I expect the new hazardous substance regulations will come into effect around mid-2016 at the earliest due to the complex drafting and highly technical nature of the requirements. It's important we take the time to get it right.

With your support, I am optimistic we can work together to reduce the step change needed to reduce New Zealand's workplace injury and death toll.



Minister for Workplace Relations and Safety, Michael Woodhouse

New gas district regulator station to be built soon in East Tamaki

Construction of a new gas district regulator station in East Tamaki will soon supply a fast growing South East Auckland population.

The station, which will be situated on the corner of Springs Road and East Tamaki Road, will be the biggest in the area, capable of distributing more than 5,000 cubic metres of gas per hour.

It is being built as the existing station has reached its capacity and is due for upgrading.

The station will regulate and measure the flow of gas into the East Auckland medium pressure network.

Vector is designing and managing the project, and GHD is involved in the design of the enclosure and the resource consent application. Electrix will complete the on-site works, including the station installation, which includes the building.

Vector has agreed with the local community to paint the building with street art once completed.

Labour Energy spokesperson on board with LPG and Gas Associations

Labour's Energy spokesperson, Stuart Nash, is already well versed in the benefits and importance of gas to the national economy, but is very interested in creating a dialogue with LPGGA and GANZ to keep up to date with market activity and innovations, says LPGGA executive director Peter Gilbert.

The pair had an introductory meeting in late April, at which they discussed ways they could work together on policy ideas and initiatives driving innovation across the market and the country as a whole.

"The meeting was extremely positive, and we're looking forward to a productive relationship with Stuart," says Peter.

"I talked to him about what gas does and can do for New Zealand. He recognises the role gas can play in moving us towards a more environmentally sustainable future."

Peter says the Napier MP understands the benefits of using gas in New Zealand households, and is looking into gas as a heating option for his own home.

"Stuart's looking at making his own house more energy efficient and sustainable, and is interested in how he can use gas to do this," he says.

"We've offered him assistance in sorting through heating options. It's great that he views gas positively, and knows where to come in future to talk about industry issues."



Labour Spokesperson for Energy, Stuart Nash

2015 Coatings and Corrosion conference addressing key economic issues

The substantial impact corrosion has on New Zealand's economy will be the cornerstone of the 2015 Coatings and Corrosion conference and expo.

Conference chair, Mike Boardman, says the conference will address the issue of corrosion as a huge financial impediment to the NZ and world economies.

"During the course of this event, participants will gain an appreciation of the cost of corrosion to our economy and how it impacts their business," he says.

"Studies have shown that the cost of corrosion to industrial societies is in the order of two to four percent of GDP – forty percent of which is preventable.

"The speakers and exhibitors will provide solutions to these problems."

The conference will be held on 29 and 30 July at Auckland's Ellerslie Events Centre.

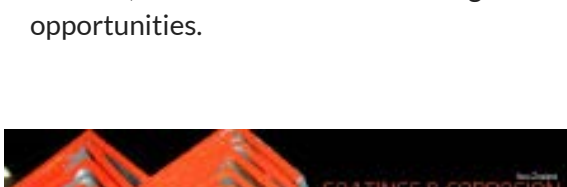
The conference organising company, Conferenz, is offering GANZ members a 10% discount off the conference price (both super saver and early-bird rates). To claim this discount, please use the online booking code: MG04WC. Super Saver closes 5pm, 30 May 2015.

[Click here](#) to register and view the agenda.

The conference will also address business growth in the coatings and corrosion industry, legal and environmental aspects of corrosion, the impact of corrosion on health & safety and the collaboration between the government and the private sector.

The variety of speakers include consultant Les Boulton, and delegates from NZTA, KiwiRail, the University of Auckland, and Callaghan Innovation, who will consider industry issues from technical, legal, and political perspectives.

The expo is free to attend, and attendees can meet sponsors and exhibitors, learn about the latest technology, products and services, and make use of networking opportunities.



We are always looking for stories from both the natural gas and LPG worlds, as well as the wider gas community.

If you have any story ideas for Gasline please [email Daniel](#)

