



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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GANZ visits Australia for technical forum

Delegates from the GANZ technical advisory group will soon visit their Australian counterparts, the Energy Network Association (ENA), to discuss technical issues of concern to industry on both sides of the Tasman.



Chair of the GANZ Technical Advisory Group, Nicolas Vessiot

The technical forum, to be held in Melbourne in June, will focus on issues including hazardous areas, safety, construction practices and asset management processes and systems. It will also review key performance indicators.

Nicolas Vessiot, chair of the technical advisory group and co-ordinator of the forum, says this meeting will be hugely beneficial for the New Zealand gas industry.

"It will be great to see where we sit against Australia. We have a few issues in common, so we can both gain from discussing how best to tackle them."

Nicolas says the group will also aim to meet with Australian manufacturers and suppliers, to assess their capabilities and keep up to date with new product availability.

The technical advisory group's role is to identify technical solutions that would benefit the gas industry, and evaluate the New Zealand gas industry's performance against other countries and organisations.

Its members represent Powerco, Vector, GasNet, Nova, Electrix and AMS.

"It's a lot more helpful and efficient for industry having delegates from different companies attend the forum, rather than individual companies doing their own research," Nicolas says.

"This way, we can report back to industry and assess where we sit next to other countries, what we can improve on, and how we can best do that."

Introducing new LPGA board member, Peter Kimber

The LPGA's newest board member, Peter Kimber, is keen to help make the association as valuable and as relevant as possible for its members.

Peter is the Trading Manager at Genesis Energy, which involves managing the operations of the fuels team, whose portfolio includes natural and LP gas.



The LPGA's newest board member, Genesis Energy Trading Manager Peter Kimber

Peter says he is excited about playing a bigger part in industry, as well as lifting the profile of LPG within Genesis Energy.

"Being on the board is a great opportunity, and I'm really looking forward to it," says Peter.

"I'm sure I will learn a lot, and I hope to contribute just as much to industry and the LPGA."

As well as his commercial experience, Peter also has a technical background, working in a number of operational engineering roles.

This included a stint as the production manager of Huntly power station, the largest power station in New Zealand.

"I hope the combination of my experiences will prove beneficial on the board," he says.

"I'd like to help make sure the LPGA is relevant as a trade association, and that we are providing the right things for our members."

Peter sees growth as an issue facing the gas industry.

"The industry has peaked and declined in the past, and it's slowly on the rise again," he says.

"We need to make sure this growth is sustainable. There's plenty of potential for gas to play a greater part in New Zealand's energy landscape – in some areas it's quite underutilised as an energy source."

Genesis Energy has recently changed its LPGA membership category from retailer to wholesaler, and Peter says this move was natural.

"The bulk of Genesis Energy's LPG is sold at a wholesaler level, and we primarily operate upstream, with only a small retail portion," he says.

"Hopefully this move will help both Genesis Energy and the LPGA gain further insights into issues across the spectrum including at a wholesaler level."

Canterbury Spatial Data Infrastructure Programme could soon benefit gas industry

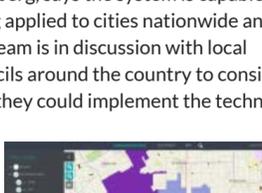
The gas industry is set to benefit from a new location-based information sharing programme devised by Land Information New Zealand (LINZ).

The Canterbury Spatial Data Infrastructure Programme (SDI) enables better sharing of location based data between the public, private, and research sectors. This means the gas industry gains advanced knowledge of construction, repair and maintenance projects that may affect their assets, meaning that works can be co-ordinated across various parties, creating efficiencies and time and money savings.

The programme was established after the 2010 and 2011 Canterbury earthquakes, which prompted the need for a huge amount of data to be shared around red zones, construction, and the hundreds of kilometres of "horizontal" (gas, water, sewerage) infrastructure in need of repairs.

An SDI includes the technologies, policies, standards, and agreements necessary for organisations to easily share spatial information.

Canterbury SDI Project Manager, Stephen Bensberg, says the system is capable of being applied to cities nationwide and the SDI team is in discussion with local councils around the country to consider how they could implement the technology.



A screenshot of the Canterbury SDI Programme Forward Works Viewer, showing where activities are occurring. Photo credit: LINZ.

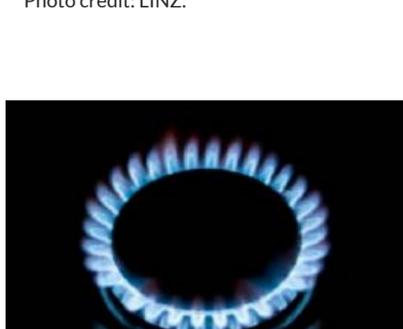
"Christchurch has been the catalyst for change – the original SDI brief outlined the need to assist the rebuild process immediately, and apply the lessons from Canterbury to a nationwide level," says Mr Bensberg.

The Forward Works Viewer, technology which will allow the gas industry such insights, is an interactive spatial viewer that shows real time rebuild activity in Christchurch.

This allows project planners to share information about their planned activities months in advance. The Viewer helps to identify closure of infrastructure networks, project clashes, and opportunities to coordinate, which Mr Bensberg says saves time and money.

"It's projected that by December 2016, the benefits will be in the realm of \$20 million – this far outweighs the project cost of \$1.6 million," he says.

A screenshot of the Canterbury SDI Programme Forward Works Viewer, showing where activities are occurring. Photo credit: LINZ.

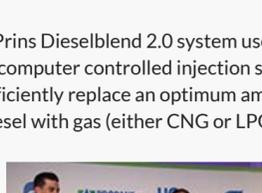


LPGA and GANZ raise heat pump issue

Alternative fuel system wins 2014 WLPGA Innovation Award

Prins Autogassystemen has won the 2014 World LP Gas Association's Innovation Award for its dual fuel technology for heavy duty vehicles.

The Prins Dieselblend 2.0 system uses a fully computer controlled injection system to efficiently replace an optimum amount of diesel with gas (either CNG or LPG).



WLPGA CEO and Managing Director James Rockall handed over the award to Prins Autogassystemen CEO Bart van Aerle.

It complies with all required regulations and certifications.

The system is being installed by UK company John Lewis Partnership (JLP) which is converting 38 of its fleet to dual-fuel vehicles, in this case the Prins Dieselblend 2.0 CNG system. These vehicles service the John Lewis department stores and Waitrose supermarkets.

The converted vehicles will have a range of around 1,000 kilometres using the CNG tanks. The engines then switch automatically to using 100 percent diesel for around another 300 kilometres.

By using less diesel, JLP will not only meet its strict efficiency targets to reduce carbon dioxide-equivalent emissions, but it will also recover its investment in dual fuel technology because CNG is significantly cheaper than diesel.

The LPGA and GANZ are currently working to prevent a problem affecting heat pump customers who also use LPG or natural gas.

There are an increasing number of sites at which heat pumps have been installed with condenser units within the hazard or exclusion zones in place around LPG cylinders or natural gas meter installations.

In November last year, Peter Gilbert, Executive Director of the LPGA, wrote to heat pump manufacturers to raise this issue.

"This almost exclusively occurs when heat pumps are fitted where there is an existing LPG cylinder and natural gas meter installation," said Mr Gilbert.

"This then causes the consumer an issue when the situation is picked up by the LPG supplier or the gas meter owner."

In the case of LPG, the supplier cannot supply replacement LPG cylinders to site if the hazardous area requirements have been breached.

Mr Gilbert said the LPGA would like to work with heat pump suppliers to notify heat pump installers of this issue.

So far, the only reply has come from Mitsubishi who stated they were aware of the issue, and include it in their training for their dealers and installers.

Mr Gilbert will continue to communicate with other suppliers.

He has also made an appointment with the Electrical Workers Registration Board to raise this issue in their newsletter.

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