



Energy 21C Media Release
6 July 2009

Keeping abreast of unprecedented change and new demands in energy transmission and distribution

Energy industry leaders agree that informed and environmentally aware customers will be key drivers of change in the transition to technologies that give people greater control of their power consumption.

The most successful energy transmission and distribution companies will be those that embrace innovation and smart technologies to meet the demands of a low carbon economy and provide better choices for their customers.

The Energy Networks Association (ENA), the peak body representing gas and electricity distribution businesses throughout Australia, has welcomed the National Energy Efficiency Initiative, announced recently by the Australian Government.

In partnership with the energy sector, the Australian Government will invest up to \$100 million to help develop a smarter and more efficient energy network.

ENA Chief Executive Officer, Andrew Blyth, said the Association and its member companies were at the forefront of establishing smart networks in Australia to allow for more efficient use of power and a more reliable supply for consumers.

“We look forward to the government’s further involvement in joining with the ENA and energy network companies to see the smart network initiative become a reality.”

Smart networks and demand management strategies will be key issues to be addressed at the Energy 21C conference at the new Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre from 6 to 9 September 2009.

Energy 21C is the premier electricity and gas industry conference in the Southern Hemisphere. It is owned by ENA and the Australian Industry Group, which represents 10,000 employers in manufacturing, construction, automotive, telecommunications, information technology, transport, labour hire and other industries.

Bob Smith, the conference Chairman and Convenor, said the energy industry was facing unprecedented change.

**10th International
Electricity and Gas Networks
Conference & Exhibition**



energy 21C
Energy Delivery Solutions
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6-9 September 2009 Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre Melbourne Australia

“It is this change that will compel the most visionary and progressive industry representatives to attend the conference and debate the issues with their peers,” Mr Smith said.

“Among our keynote speakers is Guido Bartels, Chairman of the Gridwise Alliance in the United States and General Manager of IBM’s Global Energy and Utilities Industry, who will address the conference on intelligence, innovation and the integrated energy value chain.

“He believes that changes sweeping the industry are challenging not only how energy is sourced and delivered, but the relationships that companies have with their employees, customers and regulators.”

Energy 21C Program Chairman, Mike Griffin, said: “We have dedicated the opening summit of the conference to a debate on leading future energy networks for customers.

“The renewal of ageing energy networks with intelligent systems and smart metering technologies to improve customer service and operational efficiency and address climate change imperatives are critical to the future.

“Energy 21C will be of vital importance and relevance to gas and electricity networks, manufacturers and suppliers.

“It will also be important for governments, industry and consumers because the conference will establish a proverbial roadmap to the future of electricity and gas transmission and distribution in Australia and around the world.

“We need new ideas and drive across all sectors of the industry.

“In the quest for innovation we are looking forward to the input of emerging leaders in the industry through an Energy 21C plenary session entitled Think Future: Describe the Energy Network Sector in 2050.”

The conference will attract an estimated 2,000 delegates from around Australasia and the world to address the key themes of customers, climate change, networks and competencies.

Energy 21C integrates a series of keynote and panel presentations, workshops, live practical demonstrations, site visits, and a vast exhibition in the new facility in Melbourne.

For more information, or to register, go to the website www.energy21C.com.au

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