

2009 Energy 21C Media Release
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Powerful list of keynote speakers and issues for Energy 21C in September

The preliminary list of keynote speakers for 2009 Energy 21C illustrates the strength and diversity of issues to be addressed at the global energy transmission and distribution conference in September.

To be held at the new Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre from 6 to 9 September, Energy 21C will generate debate around the key themes of customers, climate change, networks and competencies.

Program Coordinator, Mike Griffin, said the conference would attract presenters of the highest calibre including the following:

- George Maltabarow, Managing Director of EnergyAustralia, Chairman of the Energy Networks Association of Australia and President of the Electrical and Information Science Foundation of the University of Sydney;
- Guido Bartels, General Manager, IBM Global Energy and Utilities Industry, and Chairman of Gridwise Alliance, a leading advocacy group of private and public companies supporting a national imperative for modernising the electricity system of the United States;
- Heather Ridout, Chief Executive of the Australian Industry Group, the leading industry association in Australia representing businesses in the manufacturing, construction, automotive, ICT, transport, defence, labour hire and other industries;
- Bernie Hobbs, a multi-award winning science writer and broadcaster with ABC Science Online. Bernie has a special interest in the transfer of science and technology innovation into everyday life;
- Perry Sioshansi, President of Menlo Energy Ergonomics, a consulting firm based in San Francisco, California primarily serving the electric power sector. He is the editor and publisher of EEnergy Informer, a monthly newsletter with international circulation; and
- Ed Willett is a commissioner of the ACCC, and an inaugural member of the Australian Energy Regulator (AER). He chairs the Utility Regulators Forum and the ACCC's Communications Committee.

Up to 2,000 delegates from Australia and overseas are expected to attend the conference, which will provide a particular focus on intelligent networks and future demand management solutions.

The opening session on Monday 7 September will be dedicated to an energy delivery summit with industry leaders debating future networks for customers. Tony Jones, one of the ABC's most experienced journalists, will facilitate the summit. Tony has reported for Four Corners, Foreign Correspondent, and other TV and radio current affairs programs.

The conference program is structured around five core streams that have been identified as the major priorities for the industry. Within each of the core streams, a number of key challenges and issues will be presented for the conference to consider.

The core streams are:

- Asset management and technology;
- Regulation: Gas and electricity;
- Commercial operations and service provision models;
- Gas networks; and
- Health, safety, environment, skills and training

Presenters will address strategic and policy aspects as well as practical implementation measures with a clear focus on innovation and solutions.

Mr Griffin said key senior executives within the industry would chair each session of the conference to ensure conference themes were addressed in a compelling and relevant manner.

Energy 21C is owned by the Australian Industry Group (Ai Group) and the Energy Networks Association, and it is presented by the industry for industry.

The conference is unique as it integrates a series of keynote and panel presentations, workshops, live practical demonstrations, site visits, and an exhibition expected to attract more than 130 companies.

The registration brochure will be available on-line or by post in early June.

For more information, visit www.energy21c.com.au or contact the Conference Managers, Waldron Smith Management, by telephone (03) 9645 6311 or e-mail energy21c@wsm.com.au