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## Training Courses An Investment in our People and their Future

After months of planning, the first two weeks of October 2007 saw the PSC Melbourne Office converted into a fully functional IT training centre. The office was used to host two - 6 day long - training courses in AREVA technology for nine PSC team members and six client engineers covering Habitat System Administration, Display Building and SCADA operations and functionality. The course content consisted of presentations and exercises, with each participant required to use their laptop to work through the various exercises both individually and as work groups.

All participants expressed their appreciation for the efforts of the USA based instructor Ken Sommers, who travelled to Melbourne especially for these courses. Ken has delivered similar training courses over the years both in Australia and internationally.

A key driver for staging the training courses is that PSC wanted to ensure our SCADA engineers are in the best possible position to provide support to the latest release of the AREVA EMS / SCADA systems to be rolled out in New Zealand shortly and then across Australia.

As the comments shown elsewhere on this page reveal, even the PSC participants who have supported AREVA systems for many years highly valued the training provided.

"On the second day back at work (after the training course) I used what I had just been taught to finish a task that normally another team member would have done. Ken has given me the understanding and the confidence to do more and to also share my new skills with the others in my team."



"In our day-to-day SCADA support roles, we normally do not get involved with the initial set up of the systems we support as the set up is done by the project delivery group. In this training course, Ken has shown us how to set up and configure an AREVA system from scratch."

"I thought I knew all I could learn about display building but Ken showed me some tricks to increase my productivity and even showed us two display building utilities I was not aware of."

# Northpower SCADA Upgrade well under way

Northpower Ltd, based in Whangarei, supplies electricity to approximately 50,000 customers in the Northland region of New Zealand, and PSC has been providing Northpower with SCADA consultancy and support services since 2004.

During late 2006, after a detailed evaluation process, Northpower selected the Siemens Power TG SCADA system to replace their existing system. Northpower purchased the SCADA system software from Siemens and engaged PSC to integrate the hardware and software on our premises and engineer the migration from their existing system to the new system.



*PSC Engineer Sriram Ragunathan working on the new Northpower SCADA system*



*PSC Project Manager Ross Gaspard presents training on the new SCADA system*

The new SCADA system is currently being implemented at PSC's Auckland office, with installation and commissioning scheduled for early 2008. Ross Gaspard is managing the project for PSC and Sriram Ragunathan has been busy developing the database and displays. PSC is working closely with Northpower's project team, which includes Steve Lowe, David Abernethy and Vince de Roo, to ensure a smooth transition to the new system.

## ElectraNet Telecommunications Consultancy Support Agreement

Since 2005, PSC has been providing telecommunications consultancy services to ElectraNet Pty Ltd, the electricity transmission network service provider for South Australia, under a standing support agreement.

PSC is pleased to announce that ElectraNet has recently extended the support contract.

Work to date under the contract has involved several investigations of telecommunications requirements and development options to support proposed grid developments, feasibility studies for new telecommunications network

developments, providing planning engineer support for long term regional development plans, assisting ElectraNet with network maintenance supplier contracts, and a number of one-off investigations of telecommunications network issues.

David Schutz, the Telecommunications Team Leader said that he has been very happy with PSC's standard of delivery and has appreciated the clear presentation of options and recommendations. PSC looks forward to working with David and his staff on future work.



# Team Building at the Edge

At the 2007 AREVA T&D Australasian Users Group Conference hosted by NEMMCO in Sydney, PSC sponsored the team building and social event on the first night of the conference.

The event was held at the Edge Adventure centre in Castle Hill, Australia's tallest indoor rock climbing and abseiling facility. With a number of different sports events and climbs ranging from 8.5 to 18.5 metres, there were some challenging activities for the conference delegates.

The evening was an excellent team building event and proved to be a great success with a friendly and open atmosphere.



Conference delegates being shown the ropes



# PSC at the World of Wearable Art Awards

The PSC Administration group recently attended a fantastic evening at the Montana World of Wearable art awards in Wellington. The awards returned to Wellington for the third year and have grown to become a New Zealand icon event, this year attracting 30,000 people.

The Montana World of Wearable art awards are known as a theatrical extravaganza and combine aerial acrobatics, dance, music and striking sets as a backdrop for the parade of 150 imaginative and intricate garments.



# PSC Welcomes New staff

## David Clough

David Clough joined PSC in November as a Senior Telecommunications Consultant.

David has extensive experience in strategic planning, design, project management and operations for Telecommunications networks and has held senior management roles including Telecom New Zealand where he had specific responsibility for network design, construction, and operations in the Taranaki region. David will be working in the PSC Telecommunications and IT Infrastructure group based in Wellington.



## Tanya Edgar

Tanya Edgar is a certified Oracle database administrator and has recently joined PSC as a Software Developer. Tanya has spent the past five years working on a number of software applications, most recently as technical lead and data model designer for the New Zealand Electricity Market COMIT IDE project. Tanya will be working in PSC's Control & Market Systems Group based in Wellington.



## Pravesh Jeebodhun

Pravesh Jeebodhun has joined PSC Australia as a SCADA Engineer. Pravesh has a Bachelor of Engineering Degree (Electrical and Electronic) from the University of Adelaide in South Australia and has several years experience in the operational support and development of EMS/SCADA systems, database modelling, HMI development and RTU configuration. Pravesh will be working in the Australian SCADA/EMS group initially supporting our clients in Victoria.



## Paul Higgins

Paul Higgins has recently joined PSC as a Project Manager. Paul has extensive experience in all aspects of transmission line maintenance and construction and has worked as a Project Manager and Site Supervisor on numerous transmission line projects throughout New Zealand. Paul will be working in the Lines group supporting our clients in Australia and New Zealand.



## Congratulations to Andrew and Selina

Congratulations to Andrew and Selina who were recently married in Fiji. Andrew is a Senior Engineer for PSC specialising in system studies for clients in Australia and New Zealand. PSC's Engineering Manager Chris Collie-Holmes and his wife Mary also attended the wedding.



Selina and Andrew with Chris and Mary Collie-Holmes

