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PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

Event Report Backs

The past few months have seen a lot of activity across the country with GHANZ hosting or attending a number of events:

Auckland - September 13, 2012

Kindly hosted by Beca, the Auckland GHANZ Geothermal Workshop was held in September with over 30 people in attendance from a wide spectrum of interests including installers and system designers, home owners and builders, engineers, architects, power companies and local and national government. Presentations were given by Brian White (NZGA), Rick Smith (Parsons Brinckerhoff) and Manfred Dirr (Collins Plumbing) with good discussion and interaction from attendees.

Invercargill - October 4, 2012

GHANZ were represented at the Southland Energy Conference by Garry Summers (Ground Source Ltd) Brian Carey (GNS Science) and Simon Bendall (Environmental Management Services Ltd). A GHANZ stand was set up with case studies and information on the technology made available to participants. Brian Carey also gave two talks during the conference. Case studies were very popular, with many participants taking copies away. The event was a great opportunity to showcase geothermal heat pump technology.

Wellington - October 11, 2012

Brian White (NZGA) and Fiona Coyle (GNS Science) represented GHANZ at the IRHACE and CCCA Trade Night



GHANZ display and Brian Carey at Southland Energy Conference

in Wellington. A GHANZ table was set up to provide case studies and information on geothermal heat pump technology with a good level of interaction with event attendees.

Christchurch - October 30, 2012

GHANZ members from Central Heating New Zealand (Lyll Smith and Imelda Curtain) organised an excellent GHANZ event at the Westpac Hub in Christchurch. With approximately 40 people in attendance, presentations were given by Brian Carey (GNS Science), Lyall Smith (Central Heating NZ), Zeb Etheridge (Golder Associates), and Justin Hill (Beca). There were some great discussions among attendees, with a clear focus on the opportunities geothermal energy presents for the Christchurch rebuild.

Auckland - November 20, 2012

Beca once again kindly offered to host another GHANZ event at their excellent facilities in Auckland. Professor Johnston was in Auckland as a key note speaker at the 2012 New Zealand Geothermal Workshop and GHANZ invited him to host a presentation and discussion session on his work with geothermal heat pumps in and around Melbourne. Melbourne and Auckland share similar climates, so much of his work is highly transferable to New Zealand and opportunities for greater collaboration between New Zealand and Australia were discussed. Already a joint Australia / New Zealand standard in development, and further opportunities around sharing of data, joint training initiatives and research and development opportunities were discussed. Watch this space.



GHP GUIDE RELEASED FOR COMMENT

GNS Science and EECA have been developing an introductory technical guide to geothermal heat pumps in New Zealand. The aim is to pull together information from overseas and locally and present a basic technical guide for a wide audience – interested persons may include residential and commercial building and facility owners, engineers, GHP installers, staff at local and national government agencies and others. The guide has been completed to first draft stage and has been circulated to GHANZ members for review and comments. There was an excellent response from members, with a lot of detailed commentary and suggestions coming in. A big thank you to all those who contributed. A final draft document incorporating these comments is in the final stages of preparation. A completed guide is expected to be produced as a professionally published document through EECA early in the New Year.

RESEARCH PROJECTS

In accordance with the New Zealand Government's push for greater use of renewable energy, GNS Science has a number of geothermal research projects underway. Some of these will be of interest to GHANZ members, and can be supported by your involvement. These are outlined below

1. If you don't know where you are, how do you know where you are going?

GHP Database

GNS Science is developing the first database of New Zealand's geothermal heat pump installations. This project aims to collate technical and economic data for existing GHP installations to build an accurate picture of New Zealand's current market and installed energy. It will also inform a microeconomics study for GHPs in NZ. A web accessible map/interface will be built to display non-confidential information (e.g. to show spatial distribution and installed capacity). GNS Science will be contacting GHANZ members, and others identified installers/designers, over the coming months to seek your involvement. Please email Stefan Mroczek (s.mroczek@gns.cri.nz) for more information or if you are keen to be involved.

2. If you don't know what you don't know, how will you know how to get there?

Architects/Engineers awareness of GHPs

GNS Science is conducting a social science study to understand architects' and engineers' views about geothermal and biomass renewable energy sources and what may be preventing the specification and adoption of associated technologies. A series of 8 focus groups (small

group interviews) will be held early 2013 in Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch and Dunedin. Participants will discuss their experiences working with heating and cooling systems, with particular emphasis on geothermal (ground source) and biomass technologies; specifically the risks, benefits and future opportunities for New Zealand. The focus groups will be followed up with a wider national survey. If you are interested in being involved please contact Fiona Coyle (f.coyle@gns.cri.nz).

TRAINING

In the last GHANZ teleconference meeting, members discussed training opportunities to increase geothermal heat pump knowledge and installer competency in New Zealand. The lack of qualified installers in New Zealand is recognised as a market barrier. The concept of introductory training sessions being run by GHANZ members was discussed, and this is something that will likely proceed in the New Year. Please register your interest if you would like to assist with this initiative by emailing info@ghanz.org.nz.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

GHANZ membership is continuing to grow, with now over 35 paid members and lots of interest being expressed from recent GHANZ events. Please encourage anyone with an interest in geothermal heating to join the NZGA and GHANZ. Membership is \$100 per year for individuals with application forms available at <http://www.nzgeothermal.org.nz/about.html>

NEXT MEETING

The next GHANZ meeting is proposed for February, 2013. There is a suggestion that this could be achieved via video conference connections from venues across New Zealand. Stay tuned for an update on this and we look forward to connecting with you all in the New Year.

Thank you all for your enthusiastic support for GHANZ throughout this very successful first year.

Have a safe and happy holiday season.