

promote your business and help futureintech

Research shows that students want 'living examples' of jobs – they want to know exactly what the work involves, what the pay is like, and what a typical day involves. Profiling your company and employees through Futureintech is one of the best ways to supply the information they need, and promote your industry at the same time.

Your local Facilitator (see page 3 for contact details) can visit your company with a set of prepared questions, to learn about your business and interview some of the younger staff.

These real-life examples are then used on our website and in various publications, such as TEARAWAY magazine, which reaches 242,000 secondary school students every month.

Transpower

Transpower, owner of the national transmission grid, is one company that supports Futureintech. The company and several of its young engineers have been profiled.

"We support Futureintech as part of our response to ensure that there are sufficient skilled people available to meet New Zealand's needs over the next decade," says Transpower's system architect Marshall Clark, who is co-ordinating the company's response to the initiative.

"Staff with extensive or specialist experience can be difficult to find. Promoting our company and the work we do through Futureintech is one way to combat this problem in the long term."

Traffic Design Group

Traffic Design Group (TDG) has also been an active supporter of the initiative, encouraging the profiling of their young staff and their involvement as Ambassadors to work with school students.

"Working as a voluntary Ambassador for Futureintech can be a unique form of personal development," says TDG Director Peter McCombs. "Ambassadors can develop their confidence, communication and presentation skills, as well as promoting our industry."

Getting Involved

Profiling is a great opportunity for businesses to promote themselves to young people as a challenging and exciting place to work. It's a win-win situation for all involved.

Futureintech is funded by Government to help lift enrolments in tertiary study in technology, engineering and science over the medium to long term. **enewsforindustry** keeps technology-based industries in touch with Futureintech's latest activities.

Profiles and case studies

go to page **2**

Futureintech's new partners

go to page **3**

Ambassador training and the latest Futureintech news

go to page **4**

ISSN 1176-547X

Published by
Futureintech
tel 04 473 2023
fax 04 474 8933
enquiries@futureintech.org.nz
www.futureintech.org.nz

Futureintech is an initiative of
The Institution of Professional Engineers New Zealand Inc
3rd floor Molesworth House, 101 Molesworth Street
PO Box 12 241, Wellington, New Zealand



profilesandcasestudies

Transpower and Traffic Design Group are two examples of companies that have featured as case studies for Futureintech.



Transpower owns the National Grid that carries electricity from generating stations to substations. It also manages the security of the electricity system. It is a State Owned Enterprise with a total capitalisation of around \$2.2 billion and it earns around \$530 million a year.

Transpower directly employees about 400 people but several thousand other people work for contracting or consulting companies that support the National Grid.

Hiring staff

Transpower has an undergraduate recruitment and graduate training programme. The skills looked for include an interest in engineering, experience with leadership and teamwork, innovative ability and a drive for excellence.

Staff with extensive or specialist experience can be difficult to find, and this is why Transpower trains and develops graduate engineers. Transpower recruits some staff from overseas and is also keen to attract back New Zealand-trained engineers.

Work style

Hardworking, self motivated and at times formal. Staff tend to be quite self-directed and competent at their roles and try continually to improve their performance. They work at being good team members.

www.transpower.co.nz



Wherever people are, whatever they are doing - working or enjoying their leisure - their lives are in some way affected by traffic.

Traffic Design Group is New Zealand's largest specialist traffic engineering consultancy, with 55 staff including 35 engineers providing transportation planning and traffic engineering design.

Achievements

A high-profile project has been integrating New Zealand's most popular visitor venue, Sky City, with Auckland's inner city with street and footpath links, and a bus interchange and a coach terminal. Another was the Westpac Stadium in Wellington where TDG planned pedestrian and crowd access, and developed traffic and parking plans for the surrounding neighbourhood and arterial roads.

Work style

TDG makes a commitment to "grow" an employee into the company. Effective oral and written communications and skills that will maintain customer relationships are essential for the success of projects at TDG.

TDG encourages flair and creativity. People who are open minded and flexible with a flow of ideas fit in well.

www.tdg.co.nz



Jennifer Chiu - Age 23

Working as: Transpower electrical engineer - Power systems

Earning: \$43,750

In a nutshell: "I was keen on physics at school so engineering seemed a natural move."

Why? "Engineers are innovative. We seek different ways of doing things, in a more efficient way and in a faster time."



Eliza Sutton - Age 27

Working as: Traffic engineer, Wellington

Earning: Starting salary \$35,000, and depending on qualifications and experience may go higher than \$100,000

In a nutshell: "A traffic engineer needs an analytical mind, to adapt and to take on other people's ideas, and to work a problem through."

Why? "No day is exactly the same."

futureintech's new partners

Futureintech will only succeed through the partnerships it forges with technology-based organisations. The project works in close collaboration with a growing number of industry groups. Each has agreed to work with Futureintech: either by showing leadership; influencing other organisations; supporting related initiatives; or offering scholarships for studies in technology, engineering and science.

Enterprise North Shore

Enterprise North Shore Trust is the economic development agency for North Shore City. They have been helping Futureintech's Auckland-based Facilitator Angela Hart with contacts and information on local enterprises.

Plastics NZ (PNZ)

PNZ represents New Zealand manufacturers, raw material suppliers and recyclers of plastic products. PNZ is providing information about the industry and facilitating links with plastics companies, and is working with Futureintech to promote technology, engineering and science careers in the plastics industry.

Amcor Flexibles

Amcor Flexibles is an innovative flexible packaging firm based in Auckland, who produce a range of products, mainly for large food companies. The company places a high priority on innovation, and have offered to supply profiles and Ambassadors for Futureintech.

URS New Zealand

URS New Zealand is a professional services company providing engineering and environmental expertise to people and projects across the world. They have invited Futureintech's Auckland facilitator Angela Hart to visit the company and write a profile and case study.

Canterbury Manufacturers Association (CMA)

CMA's vision is "a vibrant and growing manufacturing sector that will form the foundation of first-world living standards for New Zealand." CMA provides Christchurch-based facilitator Neil Potter with valuable links to manufacturers and shares the aim of promoting careers in technology, science and engineering.

Existing partners

Information Technology Association of New Zealand
New Zealand Computer Society
Royal Society of New Zealand
Technology Education New Zealand
New Zealand Association of Science Educators
New Zealand Institute of Food Science and Technology
Transpower New Zealand Ltd
Association of Consulting Engineers of New Zealand
Economic Development Association of New Zealand
New Zealand Post Primary Teachers Association
Tait Electronics Ltd
Genesis Research and Development Corporation
iTouch Business Mobility
New Zealand Association of Radio Transmitters

Facilitator contact details

Futureintech's first three full-time Regional Facilitators have been set up in Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch to engage industry support and work with classroom teachers, careers advisors, students and their caregivers. If you want your business to become a Futureintech partner, to be profiled in our publications or to supply staff as ambassadors, please contact one of us:



Angela Hart
Auckland Facilitator
tel 09 373 5600

ahart@futureintech.org.nz

Marilyn Daly
Wellington Facilitator
tel 04 473 2025



mdaly@futureintech.org.nz



Neil Potter
Christchurch
Facilitator
tel 03 365 4120

npotter@futureintech.org.nz

futureintechnews

The Futureintech team has been hard at work building up links between industry and education. Here are some of the latest projects we've been working on.

Futureintech Ambassadors

Training starts next week for Futureintech Ambassadors – young people working in technology, science and engineering who have volunteered to work with students and teachers.

Ambassadors, who are giving up their time voluntarily, have an important part to play. The plan is for them to visit schools and give help and advice on projects like CREST, Bright Sparks and the Neighbourhood Engineers Award.

The main qualities required of a potential Ambassador are enthusiasm, a passion for what they do and a commitment to inspiring young people. One-day workshops are being held in Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch next week to ensure Ambassadors are well-prepared for the school environment and have the right communication skills.

Our three Facilitators will work with the Ambassadors to match them with particular schools, and make sure teachers have high quality and exciting materials.

The programme has many benefits for all involved. For students, it makes their classroom projects more exciting and relevant. It is a great aid for teachers, providing curriculum-based activities, and for the Ambassadors it helps develop confidence, communication and presentation skills. It's an excellent form of personal development.

A big thank-you to all our Ambassadors and to their employers for letting them take a small amount of time out of their busy schedules. If your company can help out please contact us at: enquiries@futureintech.org.nz

TEARAWAY

Futureintech's first full-page slot appeared in the April edition of TEARAWAY Magazine, New Zealand's number one youth magazine, with a readership of 242,000.



people! **buzzing out**

Deciding on a career
"I decided at about Year 11 that engineering would be my career. At school I had some passionate maths and physics teachers who enthused me."
"I wanted to work in a field where I could make a difference. I like the thought of being able to use what I'm learning to do something useful and practical in the real world."
"The first year of my degree at Canterbury was relaxed and social, but the next three were quite intense."
"The first year you get a broad choice – the only core subjects are maths and physics."
"The standards are really high. In first year some students who have been pushed by parents and teachers at school find that at university they lack self-motivation."
"To do this job you need to be rational and analytical, but you also have to think creatively to find solutions to problems."

Ruth English, 24, is a Network Support Engineer for Transpower.
"The great thing about this job is that no task is ever the same. I'm continually challenged in the way I think, which makes work fun, dynamic and exciting."
"You have to enjoy solving problems and I think that a creative side to a person is also needed."
"I've just finished Transpower's two-year graduate training programme."
"It was great, as it let me see the industry as a whole and decide what area really gave me a buzz."
"I spent time in heaps of sections – like planning, technical support, network support, real time support, market services, field services and information technology."

DVD case studies

A high-tech DVD is on its way to many classrooms around the country, thanks to Futureintech, New Zealand Trade and Enterprise (NZTE) and Technology Education New Zealand (TENZ). The DVD has information and case studies on some of New Zealand's most innovative and exciting technology-based industries.

High profile companies featured include Richard Taylor's Weta, Jade software, and the Bioengineering Institute. The DVD is a great classroom resource for teachers to inspire and educate students with.

How to find out more . . .

Technology-based businesses:

Futureintech can work with you to help ensure your future professional human resource needs are being acknowledged and addressed.

Industry organisations:

Futureintech would like to case study your company and profile staff.

Futureintech:

enquiries@futureintech.org.nz

tel 04 473 2023

fax 04 474 8933

www.futureintech.org.nz

The Futureintech website is up and running, with a wealth of resources. Check out the profiles of young professionals and the companies they work for, and information on different career paths and scholarships.