

New Zealand Petroleum Conference

The 2002 New Zealand Petroleum Conference being held in Auckland next February 24th-27th is expected to attract more international delegates than usual following the heightened interest in New Zealand exploration after significant recent discoveries.

The discovery of the 1Tcf Pohokura gas-condensate field on New Plymouth's doorstep, and the intriguing oil and gas finds at Rimu and Kauri, have helped attract a lot of interest in further exploration of the Taranaki Basin. Other basins attracting increased notice are the Deepwater Taranaki, offshore Canterbury, Great South and East Coast Basins.

The 2002 Conference has attracted an excellent range of speakers with the best selection of papers yet presented to a New Zealand Petroleum conference.

Among the speakers are Eve Howell, Apache Energy Ltd's Business Development Manager and Deputy Managing Director; Tim Warren, Shell International E&P's Regional Director for Asia-Pacific; Terry Swift, Swift Energy's Chief Executive and President; and John Mork, Energy Corporation of America's Chief Executive Officer. Many of the 40 companies exploring in New Zealand will be reporting directly on various

aspects of their operations. In most technical papers the leading researchers or the explorers themselves will be addressing the conference. In community relations it will be the workers in the field and regional councils who will be talking.

Being held just once every two years makes the New Zealand conference a real 'must' for all those exploring, or interested in exploring, in New Zealand. Delegates comprise a great mixture of geologists, geophysicists and other technocrats, with lawyers, accountants and financial people. Service providers and local government representatives give further dimensions to this bonding of people, all of whom are necessary for furthering petroleum exploration in New Zealand.

Among the themes being explored at Auckland are:

- Extending New Zealand's frontiers - both outwards and with depth
- Success in exploring New Zealand's regions
- New Zealand's international scorecard as rated by Shell's 'man in the Pacific'
- How the petroleum industry can satisfy

New Zealand's growing gas demand

- Continental Shelf delineation - how do we determine the extent of continental New Zealand and what could be out there.
- Geological advances - from concepts to prospects

A session on the changing face of the industry will analyse developments in the local and global industry from the viewpoints of the regulator, the investor, the independent, the major explorer, the service provide and the gas user.

The Auckland setting for the conference makes easy travelling for Australian delegates. Tours and field trips allow visiting delegates to take full advantage of the conference location. A full social programme has been prepared to provide means for networking by the speakers, delegates and key politicians. Both the Deputy Prime Minister, Jim Anderton and the Associate Minister of Energy responsible for New Zealand's petroleum industry, Paul Swain will address and meet with delegates.

For more details of the programme or to register for the conference, see the Crown Minerals website: www.crownminerals.govt.nz or email tania.bate@crownminerals.govt.nz