

Pipeline records to be broken at Perth convention

Perth continues to create record-breaking attendances for resources industry related events with the latest being the 40th annual convention of The Australian Pipeline Industry Association (APIA) to be held 11 – 14 October 2008.

APIA – the peak national body representing the interests of Australia’s transmission pipeline sector – said the annual convention to be held at the Perth Convention Centre had attracted record numbers of delegates and the largest ever pipeline industry exhibition.

The 40th APIA annual convention has the theme “*Australia’s Sustainable Future – In the Pipeline!*”.

APIA’s Chief Executive, Ms Cheryl Cartwright, said this year’s theme is pertinent given the increased workloads of companies and their representative associations in dealing with the Rudd Government’s climate change policies.

“As well as economic and technical regulation of the industry, investment in gas transmission infrastructure requires some certainty in Government policies,” Ms Cartwright said.

“The focus on climate change and emissions reporting will significantly impact on APIA members, through reporting requirements, an expected increase in demand for natural gas, the increased focus on water transmission and the need to transport carbon waste should a capture and storage process be commercially developed,” she said.

The 2008 APIA convention has attracted a record attendance of more than 400 pipeline industry people and an unprecedented 75 available exhibition booths already taken up - with a waiting list.

The Perth convention is again attracting a strong international contingent as well as increasing numbers of delegates from APIA membership companies and other entities involved in pipeline industry developments.

“There is always plenty of interest in project development activity and regulation within our industry and accordingly this will feature prominently in a number of major papers to be presented at the Convention,” Ms Cartwright said.

“There is also increasing interest in carbon reduction and as usual, interest in our industry’s activity traditionally heightens when we come to Perth as Western Australia is on most occasions at the forefront of new pipeline projects,” she said.

Registered Office of:

Australian Pipeline Industry Association Limited, Level 1, 7 National Circuit, Barton ACT 2600.

Mailing Address: PO Box 5416, Kingston ACT 2604

Telephone: (02) 6273 0577 Facsimile: (02) 6273 0588 Email: apia@apia.asn.au

ABN: 29 098 754 324 ACN: 098 754 324

Australian Pipeline Industry Association Ltd

“Broadening APIA role”

Ms Cartwright said the convention would also reflect how APIA’s diverse role had broadened considerably in the past year in response to government’s economic policies.

“The new National Gas Law is in place, but the changes continue, and APIA is preparing for the evolving political, financial and economic environment and the impacts that this will have on our industry,” she said.

“Clearly, the Association is also involved in the climate change debate, reviewing policies with regard to emissions trading and other greenhouse gas reduction measures.

The 2008 APIA convention will be officially opened by The Hon Eric Ripper, Deputy Premier of Western Australia.

ROSEN President to address Convention

A feature of the keynote addresses will be a presentation by Mr Hermann Rosen, Swiss-based President of the internationally renowned ROSEN Inspection Group.

Mr Rosen’s address is titled “*40 Years of Pigging and Pipelines – An International Perspective*” and will reflect on his group’s vast global experience of safety-first operations in around 80 countries.

Other keynote speakers will include Mr Steve Edwell, Chairman, The Australian Energy Regulator who will address the convention on “*National Energy Regulation*” and Mr John Roskram, Executive Director of the Institute of Public Affairs who will speak on “*Australia’s Economic Boom – Myths, Realities and the Challenges of Change*”.

Media contacts: -

Cheryl Cartwright
APIA’s Chief Executive
0409 820 753

John Field
Field Public Relations
0418 819 527