

“people and skills powering Australia’s future”



FEBRUARY,2010 - QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

To enhance communication with API members and Partner Universities it has been decided to prepare this Quarterly Newsletter immediately following API Board meetings to advise of the key decisions and actions taken at Board meetings and to advise of planned actions to address the skills shortage in power engineering.

It is proposed to keep this to 2 pages, generally in tabular presentation.

TOPIC/ISSUE	NOTES/OUTCOMES/DECISION	FUTURE ACTION
Review of API Strategies and Actions for 2010 to 20014	<p>1. The university academics invited to provide input to the API Strategic Direction requested the Board to consider greater support for research in power engineering to raise the thought and action leadership in academia across Australia, and to improve power engineering teaching and learning.</p> <p>2. It was agreed that the industry and API needed to maintain its momentum to “Future Proof the Power Engineering Capability” of the energy sector and not make the same mistakes as in the 1990’s</p> <p>3. It was agreed to update the API Strategic Plan and Actions (Immediate and Medium/Longer Term) and include achievements from last year separately. Go to www.api.edu.au – planning section for updated API Strategic Plan and Action Plans and Achievements</p>	<p>The key strategies for 2010 to be:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Complete an amalgamation with the Australian Power Academy to place API as the truly nationally recognised representative of the power industry in Australia on power engineering skills and education.2. Continue Bursary Program implementation (industry support for vacation employment critical)3. Continuation of Power Engineering Curriculum development through Diversity Fund Grant and promotion/marketing of this to membership and partner universities.4. API & www.powerengineering.org.au Website annual update/development5. Consideration to be given to a API lead Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) submission in 2011.6. Development of close relationships with IET (UK) and IEEE-PES to share learnings

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2. API Power Engineering Summer School (Residential) 2010 and 2011	1. The Board noted the success of the 2010 Summer School held on Sunshine Coast, Qld (59 delegates attended) and endorsed the recommendation to hold the 2011 Summer School in the Newcastle/Hunter Valley region of NSW.	1. The Summer School Steering Committee consisting of API Board reps, Industry Reps (from all sectors), 2010 delegate reps and University reps to be formed and steer organisation and program.
3. API Requests for Proposals from Universities for Funding in 2010/11 Financial Year.	1. The Board noted that 13 universities from across Australia had submitted proposals. Only one university from Victoria (Victoria University) submitted proposals, which was disappointing.	1. The Board nominated the following Board members – Mike Hunnibell (Transend) and Lawrie Cleary (Ergon Energy) to work with CE and Peter Wright to undertake a preliminary assessment of the university proposals received and provide a report with recommendations to the May, 10 Board meeting
4. Amalgamation with Australian Power Academy (APA)	1. The Board noted the in-principle agreement of APA to amalgamate with API. 2. General agreement has been reached to amend the governance arrangements of API to be more representational of API membership sectors	1. CE to work with APA Secretary to develop a “Heads of Agreement” to guide the process of amalgamation and resolve administrative and commercial issues necessary for amalgamation.
5. CE Visit to US – Feb/March’ 10	1. The Board noted the report and recommendations of the CE following his visit to US Utilities, universities, IEE Power and Energy Society, and research organisations (EPRI, PSERC). 2. Recommend develop global partnerships with EPRI and PSERC with a view to including them in a future API lead Cooperative Research Centre Proposal with API key objective to improve academic leadership in power engineering in Australia – improve both research outcomes for industry and attraction of young people to power engineering and academia	1. CE to further investigate the PES Careers Advisory Service for member companies and API bursary students with a view to implementing in Australia. Seek to leverage an ongoing relationship with PSERC and PES Collaborative to support this work
5. Next meeting	Wednesday 19 May, 2010 8.30am to 3pm Victoria University - Melbourne	

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