

Energy 21C Media Release  
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## **Meeting customer demands for quality and reliability of energy supply while addressing the climate change challenge**

Energy delivery solutions to the climate change challenge will be among the key issues to be addressed at the Energy 21C conference at the Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre from 11 to 14 November 2007.

Conference Chairman, Bob Smith, said the energy sector was striving to meet customer expectations in relation to emerging power technologies, while recognising that communities increasingly demand industry response to global warming.

“Despite public acceptance of the need to conserve energy, the desire to embrace new technologies and improved lifestyles – coupled with an increasing population – will inevitably result in a dramatic increase in demand for power over the next decade,” Mr Smith said.

“Energy 21C in Sydney will address customer expectations and our ability to develop and maintain necessary skills, technical innovation and environmentally sustainable practices to meet those expectations.

“The Energy 21C conference will explore and respond to climate change issues and the regulatory frameworks that are expected to govern the way the energy industry will operate in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.”

Energy 21C is the premier electricity and gas transmission and distribution conference in the southern hemisphere and the Sydney conference is expected to attract over 2000 national and international delegates and 150 exhibitors.

A key aspect of the conference will be a Ministerial/industry summit planned for the morning of Monday 12 November and the theme will be “Energy Delivery Solutions to the Climate Change Challenge”

The summit is aimed at promoting open and effective lines of communication between governments and key decision makers in the energy sector. The Prime Minister has been invited to officially open the summit.

Mr Smith said governments and communities have never been more aware of issues relating to reliable and environmentally sustainable energy supply and usage

“Innovative solutions to new energy transmission and distribution challenges will be a key theme of the conference, recognising the need for major investment to replace ageing infrastructure to bring about surety and quality of supply.

“There will also be a focus on essential services and management of major disasters and extreme weather events.

“We will be learning from international experience and considering whether the energy industry is adequately taking into account the increased risks of global warming.

“In addressing environmental issues, customer expectations, and innovative solutions in the transition to new regulatory frameworks, Energy 21C will be a landmark conference providing powerful insights into the future.”

The seven principal streams of the conference are:

- Asset management and forecasts of future demand and infrastructure needs;
- Business and regulation against the spectre of climate change;
- Demand management and advanced metering infrastructure;
- Customer expectations and solutions;
- Energy delivery capability with a particular focus on the development and sustainability of professional and technical skills and capacity;
- Technical regulation and standardisation; and
- Gas network management.

Hosted by EnergyAustralia and Integral Energy, Energy 21C will feature a series of keynote and panel presentations, workshops, demonstrations, site visits and a large exhibition at the Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre.

For more information, visit [www.energy21c.com.au](http://www.energy21c.com.au) or contact the Conference Managers, Waldron Smith Management, by telephone (03) 9645 6311 or e-mail [energy21c@wsm.com.au](mailto:energy21c@wsm.com.au)

### **Interview:**

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