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# PBA News Issue #15 December 2019 **PBA Strengthens Operations in New Zealand and Australia**

NFV

The PBA Board is pleased to announce growth initiatives in both Australia and New Zealand. As part of PBA's 5-year strategic plan, the company is making some key strategic investments over the next 12 months, starting with our first major investment into the Australian marketplace. In Australia PBA has

made a significant asset acquisition of a company in Victoria, Australia; this acquisition includes key test and maintenance equipment as well as staff to operate a complete self-sufficient, standalone business. CEO Rob Silcock announced this at the recent shareholders meeting stating: "This is the biggest investment that PBA has made since the inception of the company II years ago. It will allow PBA to strengthen its New Zealand operation and facilitate a serious presence in the electricity industry of Australia."

PBA is witnessing an increasing demand for its specialist services and

solutions. Utilities are looking for an improved level of service and more innovation in what is a rapidly changing electricity industry. New drivers in the industry such as climate change and decarbonisation demand attention. Many PBA clients are looking to PBA and their solution division to assist with compliance and innovation across their asset base.

For PBA New Zealand it is business as usual. The company continues to invest in growth throughout New Zealand through the latest technology and R&D. Most importantly we will continue our investment in people, striving

### Quick Facts

### – last 12 months

- Increased staff numbers by 20% and workshop space by 30% in New Zealand.
- Invested over \$1.0 million in research and development of specialist solutions for the EcoGas600 and OilWatch600 product lines.
- \$1.5 million investment in facilities, test and processing equipment.

#### Industry Investment

- 10 apprenticeships completed in 10 years
- Currently 6 apprenticeships in progress.

to be the best employer in the industry, supporting apprenticeships and training staff to the best of their abilities.

In Australia we will operate as a proprietary limited company, known as Pringle Beleski and Associates (Australia) Pty Ltd, or simply 'PBA Pty Ltd'. For the last 8 years we have serviced the Australian industry via a fly-in fly-out service based out of the New Zealand operation. PBA Pty Ltd will be a fully resourced stand-alone operation and formally commenced operations in November 2019.

Rob Silcock, PBA CEO stated, "It is important that PBA maintains a balance,

one of ensuring that current New Zealand customers continue to receive the same level of service while exposing the Australian customers to the unique service offering that PBA brings; we must retain the focus that PBA is renowned for:"

# SF6 - One of the Most Dangerous Greenhouse Gases Around

Global warming is real, and in our industry the lack of appreciation for SF6 is contributing to this.

The video below gives an insight into its devastating effects when released into the atmosphere.

https://www.pbanz.com/credentials/articles/sf6-greenhouse-gas/

Ensuring that leaking equipment is identified, monitored and programmed for repair or replacement are basic steps all asset owners need to take. This needs to be coupled with establishing correct reporting, recording and handling processes amongst field staff.

PBA are the experts in this field, if you need help with SF6 please get in touch via an email to enquiries@pbanz.com



# National Cable Jointer Competition Runner Up - Michael Pascall

A great outcome for PBA Technical Specialist Michael Pascall in being awarded the runner up award at the 2019 Competition held in Napier between the 24th to 26th September.

Over the 3 days of practical and theoretical assessment Michael completed a series of LV and HV jointing tasks. The practical assessment culminated in a 3 hour exercise to complete a HV breach joint that was then terminated into a sealing end. Feedback from the judging team on Michael's performance was impressive considering the significant experience of the other competitors assembled from around NZ. As one judge remarked his performance was a credit to the support and training he had received.



A very deserving Michael Pascall after receiving his award as the overall runner up in the Cable Jointing Competition.

Left to Right: Vern Beleski - PBA GM - Michael Pascall - Tom Bromfield - PBA Technical Specialist Manager Cables

Michael has a great work history with PBA starting as an apprentice Electrician in 2012 and on completion of that apprenticeship taking on a second apprenticeship as a cable jointer for which he qualified in August of this year. For PBA understanding that our greatest asset is the commitment and capability of our staff has been confirmed by Michael's efforts and achievements.

PBA extends our thanks to the Event Sponsor Unison and the event organizers - Connexis for running this showcase industry event.



Michael Pascall being assessed

### PBA News Issue #15 December 2019

## **Product Innovation**



Create smart data with our intelligent SF6 database

# Manage your SF6 assets end to end with the EcoGas600D SF6 Database

It's simple, paperless and automated to record and download measurements via USB stick or your smart device (using our 600A), to our purpose built 600D SF6 database. From here examine your data from any perspective – a CEO, asset manager, emissions report, or maintenance planning.

## Key features:

- Record, analyse and communicate:
  - SF6 gas movements and identify leaks/losses
  - The locations of gas cylinders and the quantities of gas held in those cylinders.
- Performance and status of individual assets.
- Easily track measurements over time, enabling reporting and predictive functionality.
- Provide accurate asset management information on circuit breaker gas volumes, enabling better leak management.
- Compliant with industry standards and legal requirements.
- Paperless and automated, delivering more timely and accurate reporting.
- Intelligent presentation of data for a range of key data users, including CEOs, asset managers and emissions reporting.



Your direct, real time SF6 data interface app

### Your direct, real time SF6 data interface app

If you need immediate onsite access and interaction with the 600D, the 600A is the app for you. The 600A is the most convenient and efficient way to access and update your SF6 data directly to the 600D.

## Key features:

- Direct interface with the 600D via your smartphone or tablet.
- Paperless, user friendly, real time data access and upload.
- Database enabled automation reduces the amount of data input required.



• Accessible - seamlessly integrating with PBA's EcoGas 600M mass flow meter and also directly accessible via smartphone or tablet using the EcoGas 600A interface.



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# **PBA Welcomes**

### Investing In the Future



#### Steve Bright

The PBA team welcomed the arrival of Steve Bright in August of this year, a highly experienced Cable Jointer with over 19 years' experience within the electrical networks. Steve has extensive experience in all aspects of cable jointing including live low voltage, medium voltage and high voltage network systems including polymeric and paper lead technologies. Outside of work Steve is kept busy with a young family and DIY projects. Steve is based out of our Christchurch workshop supporting the numerous cable jointing projects PBA is involved in across New Zealand



### Chris Garnier

Joining the PBA team in May 2019 and based out of our Te Aroha Transformer workshop, Chris commenced his role as a Trainee Technical Specialist after completing his level 3 studies. The Te Aroha team have warmly welcomed Chris's arrival and his contribution to sharing the ever-growing workload.

Outside of work Chris is an avid sportsman involved in basketball which Chris has played at a representative level along with ongoing participation as a referee at championship tournaments.



#### Josh Sutton

Joining the PBA Christchurch team straight after completing his pre trade electrical training at Ara Institute of Canterbury Josh has commenced his role as a Trainee Technical Specialist in September 2019 with an initial focus on securing his day to day competency requirements and developing his field practice and experience. Outside of work Josh is a keen track cyclist and a competitor in this sport

# PBA Awarded New Zealand Cadet Forces Employer of the Year Award



PBA are pleased to announce that we have been awarded the New Zealand Cadet Forces Employer of the Year Award; the Award recognises the employer, company or organisation that provides commendable support and / or encouragement to their employee who is a member of the NZCF.



General ManagerVern Beleski stated it was a pleasure for PBA to actively support the New Zealand Cadet Forces and one of our key staff members Tom Wech who holds the rank of Flight Lieutenant and position of Training Officer at No 17 (City of Christchurch) Squadron.

# **PBA - New Hawke's Bay Workshop**



Located at 18 Niven Street Onekawa Napier PBA has established a new workshop to support activity throughout the Hawke's Bay region.

Although PBA has had a presence in the Hawke's Bay for some years the move to invest both in staff and a larger facility was made to better support our customers along with the increased level of activity in this region

Apart from bricks and mortar PBA has been happy to provide assisted redeployment of team members looking to move to the sunny East Coast which has increased the roll call to 5 team members.