

CAS Accreditation Scheme gains first auditor



Robert Norris with his auditor's certificate.

compressed air users identifying and implementing improvements, which bring about significant energy savings, usually at relatively low capital cost," says Norris.

To encourage New Zealand industry to be more active in pursuing compressed air systems efficiency, the Electricity Commission is funding CAS audits for larger New Zealand compressed air users. This audit programme requires CAS auditors to follow standards set by the Commission, and provides a path for them to obtain accreditation. In the near future only Accredited CAS Auditors will be entitled to undertake Commission-funded CAS audits.

Industrial programme manager at the Electricity Commission, Rod Treder, congratulates Robert as the first Accredited CAS Auditor in the country.

"Obtaining CAS Auditor accreditation requires considerable time and effort. We appreciate the work that Robert has put into the scheme and into practical CAS audits in the South Island. Since Robert was accredited in June, Andy Logue of Energy NZ has also gained that status and the Commission is expecting to see at least another four CAS Auditors accredited this year."

Mike Allen, long-time practitioner in the compressed air industry and technical advisor to the Electricity Commission, was involved with the initiative from the outset and is impressed with the progress. "I'm particularly pleased how the CAS auditors have grasped the range of issues affecting compressed air systems efficiency and how the savings opportunities are being clearly presented in the audit reports."

To be accredited under the Scheme, an auditor

must have demonstrated experience in industrial processes, satisfactorily completed an approved course in compressed air systems technology, and have completed at least one compressed air systems audit according to guidelines and reporting standards issued by the Electricity Commission.

Both the guidelines and reporting require the CAS auditor to take a 'total system approach' to CAS auditing and there is a strong focus on identifying cost-effective solutions. The Electricity Commission has entered into a 'Deed of Participation' with the Compressed Air Association of Australasia for the purpose of jointly maintaining the standard as technology and auditing tools develop over time.

The University of Waikato provides the approved course in compressed air technology, which is a prerequisite of applying for accreditation. It is not only open to prospective CAS auditors, but to anyone interested in enhancing their knowledge of compressed air systems.

The CAS Auditor Accreditation Scheme is administered by the Energy Management Association of New Zealand (EMANZ), meaning that EMANZ receives and assesses the applications for accreditation from the CAS auditors. EMANZ assessors review the material received against the standards set as a minimum for accreditation.

Further details about all aspects of the Scheme including the process to become an Accredited CAS Auditor, can be found at www.compressedairaudit.org.nz.

Additional information is also available from Connie Crookshanks, 027 472 8038 or connie@compressedairaudit.org.nz. ●

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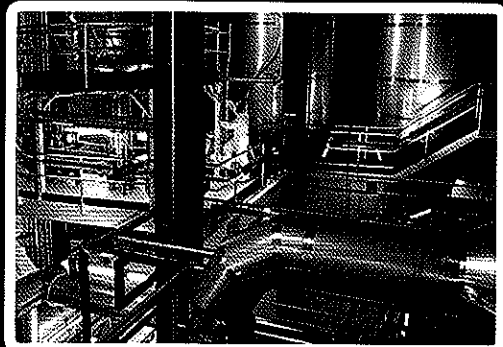
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