

Joint IEEE/IET/IPENZ Breakfast Event 2012

Key Note Speaker: Kieran Devine, General Manager- System Operations, Transpower NZ Ltd.

Title: **An Insight to the Secret Life of a System Operator**

When: 18th October 2012, 7:15am for 7:30am breakfast service, with formal proceedings to commence around 8am

Where: Hotel Intercontinental Wellington, 2 Grey St, Wellington 6011, Featherston Room

Welcome: The organisers welcome all their members and guests to enjoy this event

Cost: Members of any of the four sponsoring organisations free, Non members \$30.00

RSVP: Essential to K.Morris@computer.org

Key Note Address Abstract:

The System Operator in an electric power system is the ultimate monopoly. There can be only one boss of the power system in Real Time, with a simple objective to "KEEP THE LIGHTS ON".

The System Operator uses a wide range of technology to assist decision making, and in certain defined areas, to make decisions. The technology covers a diverse range from the hard core tasks of optimising the generation to meet demand, to providing information for the difficult decision to return a faulted line to service before a line patrol has identified the cause, to avoid the risk of the next fault causing blackout, when public safety is paramount.

The presentation will give an overview and examples of the relevant current technology, a bit of speculation of where future technology is heading, together with how we select, train and support the control room operators to make one and a half million good decisions each year.

Kieran Devine

Kieran is an electrical engineer with more than 30 years experience within the electricity industry both in New Zealand and abroad.

He is currently General Manager, System Operations for Transpower New Zealand Ltd, the owner/operator of New Zealand's high-voltage electricity transmission grid.

As System Operator, Kieran is responsible for real time Scheduling, Despatch, and Security of the New Zealand Power System, together with the management of the real time aspects of the Wholesale Electricity Market.

He completed bachelors and masters degrees in engineering at the University of Canterbury, and an MBA with Distinction from Victoria University of Wellington.

Kieran is a Fellow of the Institute of Professional Engineers (NZ), a Senior Member the IEEE (USA), and a Member of the IET (UK)

He is also a member of the Institute of Directors of New Zealand, a Trustee of the Centre for Advanced Engineering, (CAE), and a past Chairman of the New Zealand Electricity Market, Rules Committee.

