



Specialist Consultants  
to the Electricity Industry

# PSC NEWS

Helping our clients power the world



Issue 41 | November 2014

## PSC – GENASSURE MERGER

PSC has been working in close partnership with Christchurch based company, Genassure Limited, to assist generation companies with their compliance testing requirements. Genassure provides specialist test engineering and data acquisition expertise, and generator AVR and Governor testing. Over these assignments PSC has observed the close synergy of the two companies and also recognised the potential to enhance PSC's own service offering. We are now pleased to announce the merger of PSC and Genassure for generator testing and modelling services, and Genassure becomes part of the PSC group under a newly formed company Genassure International Limited. Over the next few months you will see the marketing information transition to incorporate the new company logo shown below.

**GENASSURE**<sup>®</sup>  
INTERNATIONAL LIMITED

So how does this work? The Genassure team has developed a unique technology for efficiently conducting specific generator tests that generation companies are required to perform on a periodic basis for regulators. For more information on Genassure please see: [www.genassure.com](http://www.genassure.com). The team at Genassure provides the skills and resources to develop and enhance testing solutions and to perform the on-site testing service. PSC provides the analytical expertise to develop and validate the models required by grid operators and regulators. The combination of these services puts PSC and Genassure at the leading edge of service offerings in this area.

This PSC and Genassure merger is able to offer a complete solution including strategic planning, testing, modelling and validation for our clients. For more information, please contact Peter Brown, Genassure International Manager – [peterb@genassure.com](mailto:peterb@genassure.com)

### ALSO IN THIS ISSUE:

#### PAGE 2

- ▶ Meridian Energy GCS Replacement Project

#### PAGE 3

- ▶ CIGRÉ Canada Conference
- ▶ PSC Scholarship for 2014

#### PAGE 4

- ▶ PSC Welcomes New Staff



PSC Automation Manager Barry Ireland (above left) and Genassure International Manager Peter Brown (above right) recently met in Christchurch to sign the final documents.

### A new look for PSC News!

Welcome to the first issue of the new look of PSC News. The new look is part of PSC's recent alignment of our branded materials to reflect our refined mission statement; **Helping our clients power the world.** This mission and our new look is a reflection of our emergence as an independent and truly global company. One that is committed to high quality client outcomes across North America, Asia Pacific and Europe.





# MERIDIAN ENERGY GCS REPLACEMENT PROJECT

Meridian Energy is New Zealand's largest electricity generation company with entirely renewable energy sources. All its generation assets were managed from control centres using a Generation Control System (GCS) based on a Siemens Spectrum Power™ SCADA system that was commissioned in the late 1990s.

Commencing 2011 Meridian initiated a programme to document the current state of their systems, evaluate options, prepare a business case and execute a project to have a replacement system in operation by mid-2014. Meridian engaged PSC to provide specialist resources to research and document the current state of their GCS and supporting systems, and evaluate technical options for the project. It was decided the most cost-effective and least risk approach would be to carry out a version upgrade of the Siemens Power TG system and associated GCS infrastructure. PSC worked in conjunction with Siemens and Fujitsu to prepare and cost high-level designs for the system and replacement infrastructure, as part of the successful business case.

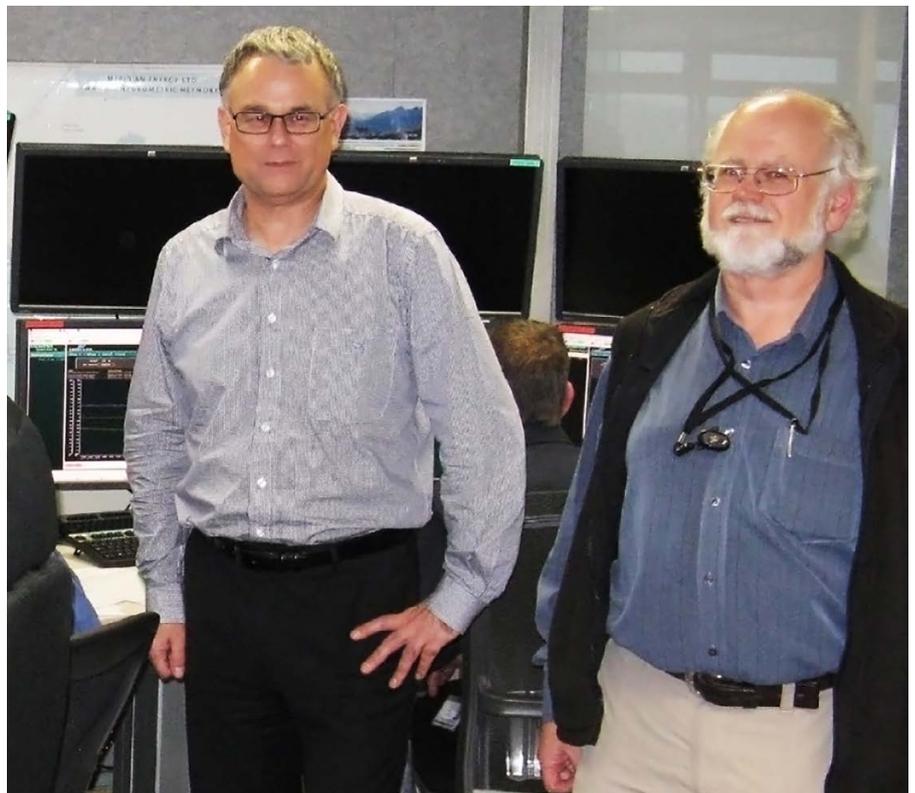
The implementation phase of the project commenced at the beginning of 2013, with Meridian engaging PSC's Auckland-based SCADA team as the project's system integrators. PSC also provided the Meridian project team with resources for physical plant design (based in Christchurch), PLC programming and OSIsoft PI work (based in Twizel), design manager and test manager (based in Wellington) and testing resources (based in Christchurch).

PSC's integration team was the key interface with the SCADA supplier, Siemens. Siemens

was responsible for supply of product and for porting of the GCS system from Power TG v7.2 to v9.0.5, including porting a number of complex hydro and canal control

optimisation applications. PSC was responsible for integrating the packages received from Siemens, testing, debugging and resolving defects using a development environment located at PSC's Auckland office, and deploying to the QA/Test and new Production environments at the Twizel data centre and the various power stations.

Commissioning of the new GCS system was completed on schedule and the project remained within budget while meeting all its performance and testing objectives. PSC is pleased to assist Meridian Energy with this very successful project. For more information, please contact:  
Ross Gaspard – PSC New Zealand SCADA/EMS Manager – [ross.gaspard@pscconsulting.com](mailto:ross.gaspard@pscconsulting.com)



PSC SCADA/EMS Manager Ross Gaspard (centre) and PSC GM Operational Technologies Graham Long (right)

# CIGRÉ CANADA CONFERENCE

PSC is pleased to have been one of the diamond sponsors for the 2014 CIGRÉ Canada conference that was held in Toronto from

the 22nd to the 24th September. This year's conference focused on "Innovation and the Evolving Grid". PSC had a global team in

attendance at this important conference to discuss the issues and the future of the power system.



The PSC Cigré Canada team. Back, L to R: Les Brand (PSC Australia), Stephen Butler (PSC Sweden), Tony Armstrong (PSC Group Chairman), David Monk (PSC Sweden), Marc Brunet-Watson (PSC North America), Mark Gilchrist (PSC Europe), Bill Johnston (PSC North America). Front, L to R: Tim Miles (PSC UK), Ken Pratt (PSC North America), Alex Boyd (PSC North America)

## PSC SCHOLARSHIP FOR 2014

PSC is pleased to continue its association with the University of Canterbury, School of Engineering and EPECentre with the annual award of the PSC Scholarship.

The PSC Scholarship was established in 2004 as a co-operation between PSC and the Electric Power Engineering Centre (EPECentre) to promote and support the education of power engineers and the study of power engineering as a field of excellence in New Zealand. The scholarship is open to students in their 3rd professional year, who are focusing on power engineering subjects and have demonstrated excellence in their studies.

The successful candidate this year was selected from a very strong field of submissions and our congratulations go to Samuel Leonard who has shown outstanding academic achievement combined with a strong focus on practical work experience and a true passion for the scale and challenges of the power industry. Samuel's particular interest lies in distribution with his final year project involving him in a 6.6kV to 11kV conversion design for a distribution company. This project has presented a range of

challenges and practical engineering disciplines such as design management, economic analysis and technical problem solving.

We wish Samuel and all the candidates every success in their pursuit of a rewarding career in the power industry.



PSC Scholarship recipient Samuel Leonard and PSC Asia-Pacific CEO Warwick Glendenning



# PSC WELCOMES NEW STAFF



## BILL JOHNSTON

Bill Johnston has joined PSC North America as Director of Sales & Business Development. Bill brings considerable depth in the sales management department, having directed national and regional sales efforts in the Energy Service industry for over 18 years – most recently as the Energy Program Director for Schneider Electric in Seattle. He is eager to instill his business ethic in the sales effort at PSC: “It is an honor to have a customer believe in you, trust you and appreciate your hard work for them.”

A Washington native, Bill is a keen soccer enthusiast and enjoys attending CenturyLink Field to support his team – Seattle Sounders FC. Bill will be based in the PSC North American headquarters in Kirkland, Washington.



## PHILIP JAP

PSC North America is pleased to welcome Philip Jap. One of Philip’s responsibilities will be heading up the Market Systems business unit for North America and he will be based in our Kirkland Washington office. Philip comes to us with over 26 years’ experience in utility operations from around the world. One of the early highlights of Philip’s career was working with PSC North America Vice President Randy Berry on an EMS replacement project for Allegheny Power.

Philip is a global traveller with many connections and enjoys the cold weather, a testament to being a graduate from the University of Michigan. When he can’t be found supporting his two daughter’s interests, he can be found on the badminton court or playing table tennis with his local club. Philip will be an important member of the PSC team working on existing and new client projects.



## GEOFF LOVE

Geoff Love has joined PSC as a Senior HVDC Engineer. His qualifications include a Bachelor of Engineering degree in electrical engineering and PhD from the University of Canterbury, and he has eight years’ experience in the high voltage electricity industry.

With extensive experience in power system analysis including HVAC and HVDC systems, Geoff also worked on the New Zealand Pole 3 HVDC project as a project and commissioning engineer where his responsibilities included commissioning, factory performance testing, reactive power control design and thermal modelling. Geoff will be based in our Reading office in the United Kingdom.

### PSC NEW ZEALAND

PO Box 57095, Mana  
Wellington  
New Zealand

Phone: +64 4 232 7680  
Fax: +64 4 232 7682

### PSC AUSTRALIA

PO Box 2102,  
Fortitude Valley BC, QLD 4006  
Australia

Phone: +61 1300 933 632  
Fax: +61 7 3252 8640

### PSC NORTH AMERICA

PO Box 878,  
Kirkland, WA 98083  
United States of America

Phone: +1 425 822 8489  
Fax: +1 425 822 3520

### PSC ASIA

#16-01 The Amara  
Corporate Tower  
100 Tras Street  
Singapore 079027

Phone: +65 9128 1830

### PSC EUROPE

Heron's Way  
Chester Business Park  
Chester CH4 9QR  
United Kingdom

Phone: +46 767 690 825



**Specialist Consultants  
to the Electricity Industry**