



Clockwise from left: Fitzroy Engineering's Keepa Maxwell and Paula Voice, workers from AMTEC Services and Anthony Young of Methanex pictured during the recent planned maintenance project at the Motunui 1 plant. The Methanex team were thrilled to collect a national award for the company's wellbeing programme.



Business Update

Brian Ropitini
Director of Manufacturing

Tena koe,

We have recently been busy with some major work at our Motunui 1 plant.

You can read about this project overleaf but I'll take the opportunity here to thank our neighbours and the local community for their patience over the last couple of months while the work was carried out.

We did everything to minimise the community impact of the project – which is not easy when you have upwards of 650 people coming to the site each day, along with

a regular night shift – and for example had a traffic management plan in place to reduce vehicle movements.

The absolute priority throughout the project was the wellbeing and safety of our staff and contractors, as is always the case. A strong safety culture is an absolute must for an organisation like Methanex, operating as we do in a high-hazard environment, and the highlight has been completing around 260,000 working hours without a single recordable injury.

Another success in the health and safety area was winning an award at the NZ Workplace Safety Awards recently, for our work in promoting the health and wellbeing of our staff and contractors. You can read more about this on page 2.

This issue also features an article on the recent visit to Motunui by pupils from New Plymouth boys' and girls' high schools. By all accounts the students had a great time here and I'm sure we'll see some of them again, either on another visit or as Methanex graduate employees.

Noho ora mai
Brian



In this edition

1. Business Update
2. Wellbeing programme scoops industry award
3. Major works at Motunui
4. Boost for Waitara Sports and Community Centre
5. Students get close to the action during plant visit

Wellbeing programme scoops industry award

Going 'above and beyond' to promote the health of its staff and contractors has won Methanex New Zealand a prestigious industry award.

The company was named winner of the Wellness at Work category at the recent New Zealand Workplace Health and Safety Awards in Auckland.

"The award is a great acknowledgement for everyone at Methanex and shows our strong commitment to keeping staff and contractors healthy," says Director of Manufacturing Brian Ropitini.

The award recognises the company's wellbeing programme, which has evolved to create positive and sustainable impacts for staff and their families, going above and beyond accepted corporate practice in this area.

From providing staff with health and nutrition consultations, fitness testing, first aid training, quit-smoking information and flu vaccines, Methanex New Zealand now offers screening for bowel and bladder cancer and an extensive fatigue management policy.

"Our staff have played a big role in winning this award as their participation in the wellbeing programme is what makes it successful," adds Brian.

Methanex Managing Director of New Zealand Kevin Maloney says the company is thrilled to be recognised in health and safety. "The long-term wellbeing of our staff is very important to us and this award is a reflection of the huge amount of work put into this area by all involved," he says.



Staff and contractors receiving free fruit as part of Methanex's health and wellbeing programme.



Major works at Motunui

It's full steam ahead at Methanex New Zealand following a planned maintenance project that provided work for hundreds of Taranaki contractors and suppliers.

Numbers on site topped 650 during the refurbishment and inspection programme at the company's Motunui 1 plant recently.

Trades employed included scaffolders, welders, blasters, painters, insulators, caterers, riggers, safety specialists, engineers, electricians, mechanical technicians and instrumentation technicians. With support services and a nine-month planning phase, more than 700 people contributed to the project.

New Zealand Managing Director Kevin Maloney says it's been great to work with the local community and provide employment to many in Taranaki and beyond.

"We'd like to thank everyone who contributed to this successful project, from those 'on the tools' inside the plant to the planners and those providing the wide range of support services required for a project of this size," he says

The works comprised the planning, shutdown, repair, inspection, refurbishment and restart of the Motunui 1 plant. Some 2,000 individual jobs and 260,000 working hours were completed by a workforce comprising Methanex employees and staff from 55 contracting companies.



Clifton Park Sports & Community Facility

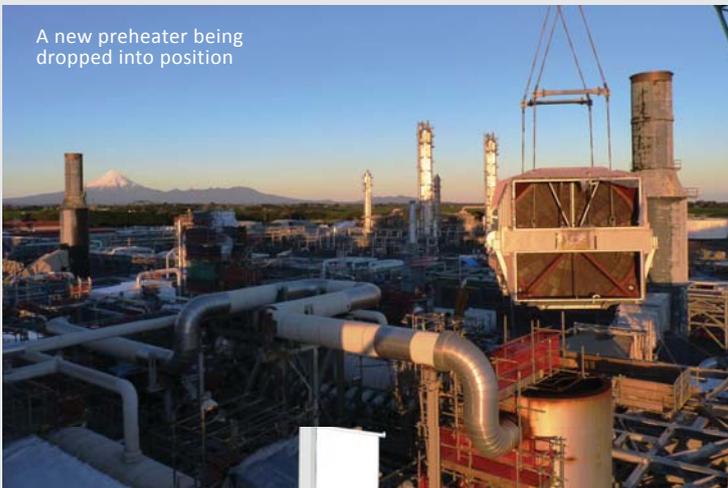
Boost for Waitara Sports and Community Centre

The excellent safety record during the major work at Motunui will boost the new sports and recreation hub in Waitara by more than \$30,000. Already the main corporate sponsor of the community facility being built at Clifton Park, Methanex is donating an additional \$600 for each of the project's 50-plus safe days.

"The project was completed without a single recordable injury, meaning that every day was a safe day," says Manager Public Affairs Manager Juliet Larkin. "It's fantastic to be converting this achievement into further Methanex support for such an important and exciting local project."

North Taranaki Sport and Recreation co-chair Howie Tamati says: "This safe days funding is a fantastic move by Methanex and we really appreciate their commitment to the new facility."

The facility is on track to be completed later on this year, with a recent blessing of the new gymnastics building signalling Waitara Gymnastic's move in and the first part of the complex to open.



A new preheater being dropped into position





The students outside the Methanex Visitor Centre with their teachers and Methanex staff

Students get close to the action during plant visit

Opening eyes and minds to new possibilities was the outcome of a recent visit to Methanex's Motunui site by secondary school students.

Over a busy morning, the 24 visitors from New Plymouth's boys' and girls' high schools enjoyed a trip to the Methanex visitor centre, a series of talks from staff about their Methanex careers to date and a van tour of the plant.

For 17-year-old Charlotte Turner the highlight was the plant visit: "You hear people talking about it but seeing it in real life was completely different.

"It looks quite small from the road but when you come onto the site you realise that it is actually pretty huge."

With her list of subjects including chemistry, physics, calculus and maths, Charlotte is set on joining the growing ranks of female engineers. "I think there's a real push for it now," she says. "There are heaps more opportunities and scholarships than there were in the past."

Following her end of year exams Charlotte intends to head south and join the engineering programme at Canterbury University.

Her maths teacher Sandra Parry says the visit was an excellent learning opportunity for the students. "They really appreciated the chance to see the plant in action and to speak with some of the people who work here.

"It's great of Methanex to provide access in this way and get the kids excited about the possibilities of a career in an organisation and environment like this.

"They start off being quite interested but without much knowledge. Getting close to the action in this way gives them a much better feel for what it might be like to work at a place like Methanex."

Methanex Drawing Officer Supervisor and tour guide for the day, John Maessen says the visit reflects the company's desire to encourage students into science-related skilled jobs.

"We are always happy to open the door for these kinds of visits," he says. "It's great to bring the students in and give them a flavour of the industry.

"The goal of the day was to plant a seed, spark an interest and I think we achieved that."

The schools' visit was the second of 2017 after the Methanex maintenance team hosted the metalwork class from Waitara High School in March. Waitara High chemistry students are scheduled to visit later in the year.

We welcome your feedback.

Please call Public Affairs Manager, Juliet Larkin, on 06 754 9700 or email us at nzpublicaffairs@methanex.com