



Motunui 2018 Turnaround



Business Update

Brian Ropitini
Director, Manufacturing

Tena koe,

Following on the heels of the major Turnaround at our Motunui site the pace of work shows no sign of abating as we head into an extensive maintenance and inspection programme at our Waitara Valley plant.

The Motunui Turnaround involved a large workforce of up to 1200, including staff and mostly local contractors. Everyone showed

great commitment in getting the job done and it now makes our assets more reliable and able to run well into the future.

We also welcomed 32 Global Methanex employees for the Turnaround from Chile, Trinidad, Egypt, Canada and the United States. Methanex is a global business with manufacturing and marketing sites in more than 12 countries. As an agile team, our staff contribute to achieving best practice in a variety of ways, from running equipment reliably to driving safe behaviours across regions.

During the latest intensive work period we've also been focusing on health and wellbeing, which has included providing free fruit to workers and ex-All Black Sir John Kirwan presenting on mental health and ways on keeping well.

In the following months you may notice more traffic around our Waitara Valley plant and, as was done with an extended workforce at Motunui, we'll be implementing a traffic plan to control traffic movements and minimise disruption to nearby residents and the wider Waitara community.

Noho ora mai
Brian



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Managing Director's vision for long term future

Dean Richardson's career with Methanex stretches across continents, which now includes New Zealand where he's hit the ground running.

Dean relocated from Vancouver to Auckland with his wife and three boys in April to take on the role of New Zealand Managing Director.

He says there's been no gradual settling in. "It has been a very busy year for us with the Turnarounds, the Government announcement halting new off-shore oil and gas exploration permits and finalising gas agreements."

His vision for Methanex New Zealand is a long term sustainable operation. "We've had an up and down history over the last 15 years and we have slowly climbed up in the last five years. Signing long term gas contracts allows us to look further into the future, allowing us to make long term plans for our assets and those who work here."

Dean has been working for Methanex Corporation since 2003 when he started as a financial analyst. Since then he has taken on various roles in finance and corporate development including an assignment in the Belgium Marketing and Logistics office.

He has visited every Methanex location, across more than 12 countries, and says despite regional differences, the Methanex culture is always consistent. "With the Methanex values of professionalism, trust, integrity and respect you can be yourself when you come to work and you're never asked to do something that doesn't align with those values," he says.

Dean replaces Kevin Maloney, who has relocated to Methanex's head office in Vancouver to take on the role of Vice President, Corporate Development.

Gas agreements provide confidence

The signing of new gas agreements underpinning over half of Methanex's 2.4 million tonnes of annual production capacity for the next 11 years have been welcomed by staff, contractors and service providers.

Methanex NZ Managing Director Dean Richardson says the signing of the agreements in July was positive news for the Taranaki region and the methanol will be used to help supply the growing Asia Pacific market.

"We're delighted to secure these agreements which provide confidence in our operations in Taranaki through 2029. We see these agreements as an important step in supporting regional jobs and providing ongoing energy security for New Zealand.

"Gas, and the continued production of methanol in New Zealand, play a positive global role in the transition to a lower carbon future."

Dean says the company is disappointed over the Government's surprise halting of off-shore oil and gas exploration permits and if that policy remained in place it would eventually have a negative effect on Methanex business and New Zealand's economy.

Methanex NZ's economic value was measured earlier this year in an Economic Impact Assessment report by PwC. It showed Methanex generates \$634 million of Taranaki's GDP, or 8 percent, and provides more than 3,100 jobs indirectly.



Dean at the Waitara Valley plant



Methanex volunteers relocate kokako into Purangi forest

The rebirth of a Kokako population in East Taranaki is well underway with 20 birds released over winter into Purangi forest and more expected next year.

East Taranaki Environment Trust chairperson Karen Schumacher says between 50 and 70 people were involved at each of the three release events. "It was a major undertaking and a very successful one. Our thanks to the community, the local district, iwi and volunteers who came together to help get the Kokako into the release site."

More than a dozen Methanex employees helped transport the birds on the final leg to their new home, following relocation from Hauturu (Little Barrier Island). The Kokako were last seen in East Taranaki about 30 years ago as predators, such as rats, possums and stoats took over.

Methanex's Sustainability Council Chairperson, Adam Hinton, says it was a privilege to be part of the powhiri and carry the birds to the release site, a 20 minute hike from the road end at Purangi.



Volunteers on the move carrying precious cargo.

Methanex Administrator Kelly Gates says the experience has left a lasting impression on her. "At first I thought nothing of this other than a nice thing to be part of, but once we were there and mixing and mingling with the community of Purangi an overwhelming sense of pride overcame me.

"Not only are these birds now living amongst the beautiful bushlands in the Taranaki region, they will be a part of the future for generations to come," she says.

The Kokako project has involved the Department of Conservation, Ngāti Maru and Northern iwi, Ngāti Manuhiri and Ngāti Rehua, volunteers and other supporters.

Methanex's partnership with the ETET will continue to support monitoring and translocating further founder birds. Meanwhile, the Trust is gearing up for a major ground pest control programme in October to keep predator numbers as low as possible.

Safe Days funding boosts Aspire project

A project helping men relate better with the women in their lives is the latest recipient of Methanex Safe Days funding for 2018.

With 85 safe days achieved in the second quarter of the year across Methanex NZ sites, the Taranaki Women's Refuge is delighted that the \$12,750 received will cover the majority of costs of its Aspire Men's Project for the year.

Facilitated by a male social worker, the Aspire programme is a project operating outside the justice system, helping men learn about relationship dynamics, improve their communication skills and make positive changes about how to think and behave in a relationship.

Women's Refuge Relationship manager Shona Smith says the funding really makes a difference. "It means we can really work with people in the very best way for the best amount of time".

The Bishop's Action Foundation's Seasons for Growth programme, Hospice Taranaki and the Waitara and Inglewood food banks are the other quarterly recipients



Women's Refuge staff receiving Safe Days funding from Methanex. From left: Shona Smith, Bob Brady (Methanex), David Younger and Janice Jessiman

for Methanex NZ Safe Days funding for 2018. Each organisation will receive \$150 for every injury-free day throughout one quarter of the year.

Methanex NZ Public Affairs Manager Juliet Larkin says: "Our Safe Days programme is

now in its fifth year and has provided more than \$170,000 to local organisations doing great things in our region.

"It's one of many ways that we contribute to the local community and we're very proud to do so."



Out and about at Methanex

Clockwise from left: Sir John Kirwan speaking at Methanex's Stand Up for Safety session during the Motunui Turnaround; Theo Anderson from TBS; Auckland University Students visiting Motunui site; Methanex Operators who took part in the Sky Tower Stair Challenge.

We welcome your feedback.

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