



FLUID TALK

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Fluid Power Society of Western Australia Inc.

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Inside This Issue

- 1**
 - New Memorandum of Understanding.
 - World Skills Winners
- 2**
 - Presidents' Prologue
 - Calendar
- 3**
 - Christmas on the Paddle Steamer Decoy
 - Parker Hannifin Technical Evening
- 4**
 - Fluid Power Training at Trinity College
 - CCI Kwinana Skills Centre
- 5**
 - Training, Assessment and Accreditation
- 6**
 - New Members
 - Advertising with FPS
 - Movers & Shakers

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New Memorandum of Understanding

The November meeting of the general committee of the Fluid Power Society held a special significance for the members present. The members were given the opportunity to witness the signing of MoU with Energy & Mining Training Solutions of which Barry Catanach is the Principal and Managing Director.



All committee members voted in favour of the new MoU which will consolidate the Society's achievement of its goal of providing a registration procedure for high pressure hose assemblers (HPHA) that the Society has developed over the last two years.



Energy & Mining Training Solutions is a Registered training provider and Barry is a Registered Training Officer so is able to provide the Society with legislation-required services that will enhance the capabilities of the Society.

And the Winners from World Skills are.....

The hydraulic and pneumatic section of the recent World Skills competition was won by **Justin Symmans** of Canning Vale based **Gerrard Hydraulics**. Justin completed all tasks required and achieved an overall score of 95% to win the **gold medal**. The fluid power section of the competition had a total of 8 competitors.

The Fluid Power competitors were judged on a variety of tasks including the design, planning and building of a pneumatic system and also the ability to read a hydraulic schematic diagram. In addition, tube bending, hose making and basic calculations were among the tasks that competitors were required to address.

Justin was given a gold medal and a certificate at a presentation held at a breakfast in the Grand Ballroom of the Burswood International Resort on Wednesday the 5th of November. Justin will travel to Queensland in May 2004 to compete in the national competition.

Justin completed his trade training course with Gerrard Hydraulics two years ago and is still with the company. "I entered the 2000 skills competition and found the experience both challenging and rewarding" said Justin. When the chance came along to compete again, Justin thought that he had a good chance of winning and decided to enter once more.

"I would like to take the opportunity to thank both **Errol Thoomes** and **Steve Pottier** for all the support they have given me over the time of the competition and in the past six years I have worked at Gerrard Hydraulics" said Justin.

The Fluid Power Society of WA warmly congratulates Justin on his outstanding effort and also congratulates Gerrard Hydraulics on providing Justin with excellent training and support.

The silver medal was awarded to **Alex Mason** of **Fremantle Hydraulics** and the Bronze medal went to **Daniel Kealley** from **Apprentices WA**.

Presidents' Prologue

By Tim Bailey



So another year has literally vanished before our eyes and most of us are looking forward to a bit of a break over Christmas.

As reported elsewhere in this newsletter, the Society's Christmas cruise was greatly enjoyed by the forty people that attended. Despite some solid effort by committee members in phoning every FPS member to encourage them to attend, the above number was all who came.

Regrettably, we needed sixty people to hold the Society's subsidy, on the event, to a budgeted \$600 and, as a result, we will have to find another event for next Christmas that doesn't commit us to expenditure in excess of a predetermined limit. It would help the committee greatly if you could give us your time in sending an email to myself at hydeng@inet.net.au or phone me on 9244 4993 to let me know what your preference is for a Christmas event.

Parker Hannifin (Australia) Pty.Ltd. hosted a technical evening/works visit at their Kewdale premises in October that was well attended and appreciated by FPS members. Our thanks to Parker state manager, Steve Carter, for putting on the event including adequate supplies of drinks and food afterwards.

The Society has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Energy & Mining Training Solutions to further the aims and activities of the Society in improving fluid power training in Western Australia. The Principal of E & MTS is FPS vice president Barry Catanach and the MoU provides the Society with an easily accessible Registered Training Organisation (RTO) to assist us in sorting out details of the ever increasing complexity of training bureaucracy in Australia.

To even further extend the Society's interest and activities in training in the fluid power industry at all levels, the Society has forwarded draft MoUs to The University of Western Australia and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Western Australia, Kwinana Training Centre, subsequent to meetings with representatives of both parties on developing mutually cooperative and beneficial arrangements with the Society.

A justification of seeking to broaden the Society's interests in improving fluid power training in Western Australia is found in events such as a recent article in the 'Business Weekly' newspaper that described the replacement of some very large hydraulic drives on an industrial plant in WA with variable speed electrical units. The article gives the impression that the hydraulic drives were in some way unsuitable and were an inferior method of driving the plant.

Unfortunately this type of comment is detrimental to the industry and stems from incorrect information and, whilst your committee has agreed to specifically pursue the inaccuracies of the article, it is symptomatic of the inadequate attention being given to fluid power training in western Australia - of which the fluid power industry and the government, through the TAFE sector, is guilty.

On behalf of the committee of the FPS of Western Australia, may I wish you a joyful, restful Christmas and a very happy and prosperous year in 2004.

With best wishes..... Tim Bailey

Events Calendar

Wednesday 4th February 2004
General Committee Meeting
AMTC Wembley

Committee Members meet for Monthly General Committee Meeting.



Wednesday 11th February 2003
Site Visit

Details will be advised via mailout next month.



Sunday 12th September 2004
Annual Golf Day
Peninsula Golf Course, Maylands

All members are invited to attend the Golf Day.



Christmas Cheer on Board the Paddle Steamer Decoy



The Fluid Power Society Christmas function was held on the Friday 14th November aboard the Paddle Steamer Decoy and for those who attended it was an evening to remember. Cast off was at 7.30pm with about 40 people on board.

The balmy weather made the evening even more enjoyable and most people spent the pre-dinner drinks time looking over the vessel and catching up with people who they had not seen for a while. After the vessel cast off from the jetty, people organised their seating on the upper deck and the on-board Gumnut Stompers Jazz Band began to play. As with the same event last year, the band was a big hit with their easy going and informal style – made even more enjoyable by the banjo player's intriguing card tricks performed between playing great music!



The magnificent views of Perth in the evening were a highlight as everyone enjoyed a lovely meal. Due to the reasonably small number of people on board, the evening had a warm and friendly feel to it that is sometimes missing at larger gatherings. After the meal the band sat among the guests and played well known tunes as well as taking requests.



Margaret Weatherall, a friend of the Society, was given a maraca and proved to have rhythm and style. Margaret was asked to play for the rest of the evening with the band. An impromptu sing-along of well known tunes was enjoyed by everyone whilst a delicious dessert and coffee were served.



As the evening came to a close guests were casually roaming the boat to enjoy the night air and more of the views. A small group went on to enjoy more of the sing-along and the evening rounded off with dancing and a great display of jiving from our president and the first lady.

As we came in to dock, all on board agreed it had been a delightful evening and our thanks go to Tim Bailey for organising such an enjoyable event.



Parker Hannifin (Australia) Pty Ltd Technical Evening

On Wednesday 8th of October, over twenty Fluid Power Society members attended a technical evening at Parker Hannifin that was arranged by Neil Sarich. Steve Carter, WA Manager of Parker Hannifin who greeted everyone.

The evening started with an informative presentation outlining a general overview of the past and future direction of Parker Hannifin in Western Australia. The FPS members were interested to learn how the company considers all stock held Australia wide as a general pool resource for all outlets, no matter where the stock is held. Any item in the Parker Hannifin range is available to any customer at any location. "This makes for a busy distribution warehouse," said Jeanne who is the warehouse supervisor.

Members were able to stroll round the warehouse and peruse the shelves and with over 300,000 line items in the total range of Parker products. Despite the very extensive stock holding viewed by the FPS visitors, not all items available in the Parker range are held at the Kewdale facility.

The tour of the workshop was of particular interest to members with many stopping at the hydraulic test bench for a closer inspection. It was only when the refreshments were served that members left the workshop area!

Parker put on a substantial spread of pizza, sandwiches and amber refreshments whilst their staff answered questions from members.

The Fluid Power Society thanks Parker Hannifin (Australia) Pty. Ltd. and Steve Carter for an interesting and pleasant evening and Neil Sarich for organising it.

Fluid Power Training at Trinity College

By Barry Catanach

The Society welcomes Ray Archibald of Trinity College as a new member. Ray has been a strong advocate of fluid power training in the secondary school sector. He took up a position with Trinity College this year to teach in the Design and Technology section of the school and also to co-ordinate Vocational Education and Training (VET) for years 10 and upwards. The management of Trinity College supported Ray in his aim to equip the Design and Technology section with pneumatic training equipment.



Ray is a very proactive person and has built up a relationship with a number of people in the fluid power industry. One of these people is FPS committee member Peter Marwood. Peter and Ray carried out a careful study into the best options available to achieve Trinity's fluid power training objectives -paying close attention to costs, brands and the specific types of training equipment required.



Peter's negotiations with various pneumatic equipment suppliers resulted in Bob Wardley of Norgren becoming involved with the College and the provision of suitable training equipment and, with the support of Ray, Peter's experience in pneumatics enabled Trinity College to deliver nationally accredited training and assessment to the College's students.

I was fortunate enough to be given the opportunity to visit Trinity College and witness the hive of activity in this area. My visit to the laboratory showed me that the students had really taken to the programme and had a firm grasp of the concepts and applications of pneumatics. The students have become so enthused with the programme that Peter has had to prepare extra challenges for the students as they galloped their way through the practical exercises.

It would be of great assistance to the College if anyone, reading this information, could donate unwanted or surplus equipment to the College to help build up a good cross section of training equipment. It may be possible to negotiate some taxation concessions in return for the donated equipment.

We are all very aware of the skilled shortages in the fluid power industry and I urge you to get behind the VET in schools program and support it with product software, equipment, text books and any other items that you think would be of benefit to schools. Trinity College has a well equipped training facility and the fluid power industry could further enhance their capabilities by providing more support with the resultant benefit that the fluid power industry would see more young people becoming interested in fluid power as a career.



The Society will make an approach to Trinity College to arrange a tour of the facility sometime in 2004 so that members can see the great work being done at the College.

The pictures show some of Trinity students enjoying the opportunity to gain hands-on experience in pneumatics.

My thanks to Peter Marwood, Ray Archibald, and the enthusiastic students at Trinity College for the opportunity to be part of their training environment. The experience was most enjoyable!

CCI Kwinana Skills Centre and The Fluid Power Society Meet

FPS committee members recently met with Frances Parnell, Manager of the CCIWA Kwinana Skills Centre, to discuss the development of a mutually beneficial relationship.

The synergy between both organisations could be of benefit to all parties. Frances said "Kwinana Skills Centre prides itself on leading the way in industrial training and the opportunity to work with the Fluid Power Society is an exciting prospect for us."

Training, Assessment and Accreditation Information

By Barry Catanach

A warning to those of you participating in traineeships or apprenticeships - please remember to look after your training record books! Your training record books are very valuable records that BELONG TO YOU and record your history of completed training and assessment. If, at any time, you need to hand the training log book over to a training provider for updating, ensure you get a receipt as a record of where the document is held. A wise move is to at least keep a complete photocopy of your log book in some separate place to that where the original is kept.

The loss of this record book has the potential to prevent the Apprentice and Trainee Support Network from finalising your trade papers. There are certain avenues that can be taken if the log book is lost - especially if it is the training provider that has caused the loss. If this has happened to you, remember that your Society can assist you by referring you to appropriate other organisations.

The Metals and Engineering Training Package was updated in May 2003. The changes consist of a revised policy document and introduction to the Competency Standards. It contains a list of any new units and modifications to existing units endorsed in May 2003.

The main changes relate to the inclusion of Boating Services Qualifications, Marine Craft and Jewellery Qualifications and competencies with one minor change that directly impacts on the fluid power industry. This relates to the Certificate IV in Engineering – Higher Engineering Trade MEM40198. The changes allow for an expansion to the number of access pathways. The revised Certificate IV is now as follows:

MEM40103 Certificate IV in Engineering 132 Points or AQF III + 36 = C7 outcome.

A point worth noting is the addition of two competencies relating to the conveyance of fluids. These were included in the training package earlier this year. The Society has updated the High Pressure Hose Assembler Registration Verification form to reflect the changes. Training providers wanting to deliver the High Pressure Hose Assembler Cert II in Engineering Production need to revise their training resources to reflect the changes in industry requirements - especially when it comes to applying for registration. The two additional competencies are:

- MEM 18.71A A. Connect/disconnect fluid conveying system components**
- MEM 18.72A A. Manufacture fluid conveying conductor assemblies**

If you require information on the training or information required as to how to become registered - see the contact details below or look at the back of this newsletter for contact details of FPS committee members.

Remember to take the time and look at the Society's Web site for training information. The purpose of the Society's Fluid Power Skills Classification and curriculum matrix is to provide a guide to gaining the necessary skills and knowledge in order to achieve Fluid Power Society of WA registration at the various levels set out on the curriculum matrix.

More information is shown on the Society's website under 'training matrix' at: www.fluidpowersociety.com.au If you do not have access to the web, please contact the Society so that we can send you a Fluid Power Skills Classification and Curriculum Matrix booklet.

Anyone wanting to gain post trade qualifications such as Certificate IV in Engineering should make enquires as to the scope of the RTO that has been chosen to provide the training. Before you enrol, make sure that you are being enrolled in the correct qualification stream. There is no benefit in enrolling in a Cert III qualification if you are already a tradesperson.

The Training Accreditation (TAC) Web site provides an avenue to look at the delivery scope of the training provider you have chosen. This will confirm if the RTO has the capability to offer that training. It is not uncommon for the delivery scope of a RTO to change from time to time and the currency of an RTO's scope can be checked on website: www.ntis.gov.au . Once in the website, go to the home page and click on 'National Training information'.

The International Fluid Power Society (formerly The Fluid Power Society of America) has welcomed our High Pressure Hose Assembler registration initiative and will support it. They are simultaneously developing a similar procedure and are in the process of introducing certification in the USA. Their training is expected to commence in early 2004 so we can expect a flow-on effect here in Australia. We are already geared up and ready to register people with some large players in the fluid power industry showing interest in the training and registration.

The last FPS of WA newsletter resulted in a number of inquiries with reference to the process of gaining skills recognition in fluid power so indicating that there are fluid power people that have a need for this service. Anyone seeking advice on the subject can contact Barry Catanach either by email: bcatanac@bigpond.net.au or Mob: 0427 911 002 or any of the other FPS committee members – see the back page of this newsletter.

Remember: Learning is life-long!

New Members

The Fluid Power Society of WA extends to all new members a warm welcome.

Below are listed Fluid Power professionals and students who have recently joined the Fluid Power Society of WA.

Member	Company
Kugan s/o Nyana Segaram	Thales Geosolutions
Mohd Effandi B Mohd Yassin	Thales Geosolutions
Razaini Bin Zakaria	Thales Geosolutions
Ardiyan Jatmika	Thales Geosolutions
Agus Triono	Thales Geosolutions
Lim Mee Keong	Thales Geosolutions
Bob Myers	Simon Hydraulics & Pneumatics
Rahim Bin Atan	Thales Geosolutions
Bob Beale	
Dave Mead	Western Power
Peter Cavanagh	Submersible Technologies Australasia

Advertising with the FPS

Start the New Year off on the right foot for your company by sponsoring **Fluid Talk!**

Fluid Talk is distributed to a **targeted circulation** and, at a very nominal cost, your sponsorship will enable you to publicise your company with a flyer or brochure delivered with every copy of the sponsored issue of **Fluid Talk**.

Your company sponsorship is acknowledged with an editorial about your company in the same edition. All you have to do is pay the Society \$150 per issue and provide about 100 copies of your flyer/brochure that is A4 size and single or double sided.

Contact Margaret at Lime Communications on 9459 4402 to take advantage of this unique publicity opportunity.



Wishing All Fluid Power Members a Merry Christmas and a Safe and Prosperous New Year

Movers & Shakers

- Mining and Hydraulic Supplies have moved to 11 Boulder Rd, Malaga WA 6090.
- Peter Marwood is currently visiting the Asia Pacific region prospecting business.
- Parker Hannifin have purchased Dennison Hydraulics.



FPS Contact Names and Numbers

Position	Name	Phone	Fax	Email
President:	Tim Bailey	9244 4993	9244 4995	hydeng@iinet.net.au
Vice President:	Barry Catanach	9471 8744	9471 8755	bcatanac@bigpond.net.au
Secretary/Treasurer:	Stuart Coleman	9362 3722	9470 1447	stcoleman@tycoint.com
Technical & Training:	Phil Bristow-Stagg	9248 8255	9248 8256	pbseng@iinet.net.au
Membership & Programs:	Neil Sarich	9209 2344	9209 2355	neil.sarich@hydac.com.au
Accreditation:	Tim Bailey			
Newsletter:	Stuart Coleman			
Committee Members:	Lloyd Hollier, Ian Lavington, Peter Marwood, Danny Mayers, Malcolm Tucker.			

Disclaimer

Whilst the Fluid Power Society of WA Inc., does its best to ensure that any information that it may give is accurate, no liability or responsibility of any kind is accepted in this respect by the Fluid Power Society of WA Inc., its members, its servants or its agents.

The Fluid Power Society newsletter is compiled by Margaret from Lime Communications. Suggestions, ideas and information for the newsletter are most welcome - contact us on 9459 4402 or email limecommunications@yahoo.com.au.