

Controls, Compression & Renewables

Report on SUT Perth Branch Evening Technical Meeting
Wednesday 12th April 2017



By Paul Farquharson, Perth Branch Committee Member

The April 2017 SUT Technical Evening at the Parmelia Hilton was opened by SUT Perth Branch Secretary, Norman O'Rourke and chaired by SUT Committee Member Paul Farquharson.

The event was kindly sponsored by Advisian, INTECSEA, Proserv and Rosen.

The evening was designed to give 2 very different challenges facing subsea industry just now and an overview of renewable solutions in the underwater field.

The first presentation of the evening was given by Michael Lewis, Regional Manager Subsea Systems, Proserv Offshore. Michael's presentation dealt with extending the life of aging subsea controls assets, by supporting obsolete incumbent systems or even unsupported control systems. He gave an overview of the extent of the problem and how Proserv are working with the operators and service companies to co-exist with the already installed equipment. The equipment is designed to use the same umbilical and hence reduce installation and topside costs for the operator. The technology can be used to extend existing fields that are being expanding for additional wells, but cannot currently expand due to obsolescence.

Our second presentation was by Eoghan Quinn, Associate, New Energy Advisian. His presentation was a refreshing change from the Oil & Gas 'centric presentations. It dealt with the growing field of renewable energy and some of the strides that have been made in this area. The presentation offered early stage technology development as well as the market trends that led to ocean energy expansion. It also identified the key growth areas and breakthrough disruptive technologies that would complement offshore oil & gas sector. It closed with some recent project developments that Advisian have been involved in for marine renewables.

The final presentation of the evening was by Si Huai Yeaw, Senior Process Engineer, Aker Solutions and Current SUT Perth Branch Committee Member. He presented on the progression of subsea compression within Aker Solutions and detailed its effectiveness in today's market as a proven solution for increased recovery in gas developments. It reviewed the development timeline from Aker's first installed project to advancements top next generation products using lessons learned and progression of the operators to this technology.

After each presentation, there were questions from the floor and produced some challenging and thought provoking responses from each of the 3 presenters. The presentations were very well received from 100+ attendees and provided a great spectrum of challenges within the underwater technology space. The attendance of the evening was sold out at the 150 mark.

Thank you to the SUT members, new members and any guests for their attendance during the evening. Also, to the three presenters that in their own time volunteered to speak at the event.

The event ran extremely smoothly and garnered some very open discussions and meetings in the post presentation drinks.

I would like to conclude by thanking again our ETM sponsors, Advisian, INTECSEA, Proserv and Rosen for providing continued backing. Events like these cannot be realised without key sponsorship and support.