

Overhead Line Designer's Forum 2025

Navigation Homes Stadium, 21 Stadium Drive, Pukekohe



Electricity Engineers'
Association

8.00am	Coffee and Networking	
8:30	Introduction: Carl Rathbone — LineSmarts / Aaron Radford — Counties Energy	
8:40	Line Clash analysis for legacy long spans	Kavish Lal — Network Reliability Engineer, Counties Energy
8:55	Learnings from a cascade failure	Akhila Abeyratne — Asset Lifecycle Engineer, Waipa Networks
9:15	Climate change in New Zealand	Richard Turner — Meteorologist, NIWA
9:30	Carbon emissions of concrete poles	John Marshall — National Technical and Design Manager, Busck
9:45	Timber pole destructive testing	Mitch Graham — Asset Strategy & Constraints Engineering Team Leader, Unison
10:00	Solving the problem of 'black spots' on OH power lines	Goran Stojadinovic — Product & Innovation Manager, TransNet
10:15am Morning tea		
10:30	Introducing EEA's Knowledge Network and Forums	Hayley Head — Principal Advisor Health and Safety, EEA
10:45	Benefits of composite materials	Michael Kemp, Chief Technology Officer, Wagners
11:00	Proposed changes to AS/NZS7000	Carl Rathbone — Structural Engineer, LineSmarts
11:15	Snow load standard provisions	Richard Turner — Meteorologist, NIWA
11:35	Standards and EEA's Asset Management Group (AMG)	Stuart Johnston — Lead Advisor, Engineering & Technical, EEA
11:45	Steel crossarm experience of Counties Energy	Aaron Radford — Lead Network Standards Engineer, Counties Energy
12.00	Jed's Poles	Jeb Coppin — Capital Projects Manager, Network Tasman
12.15 Lunch		
1.00	Cyclone Gabriel—Hawkes Bay, associated design issues	Dan Burguss — Designer Team Manager, Unison
1.15	How Centra Lines weathered Cyclone Gabriel	Josh Ross— Network Designer, Centralines
1.30	Overhead switch corrosion research	Ben Albany — Distribution Technologist, WEL Networks

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1.45	ECP34: Requirements under ECP34	Antony Cochrane — Overhead Lead, Orion
2.00	ECP34: Close approach	Ben Albany — Distribution Technologist, WEL Networks
2.10	ECP34: Background to the revision of ECP34	Haley Head — Principal Advisor Health and Safety, EEA
2.20	ECP34: Workshop — Facilitated by Hayley Head and Antony Cochrane	
2.55 Afternoon tea		
3.10	Line Design competencies	Rob McCrone — EEA Consultant / Relevant
3.30	Surveying practice at ElectroNet	James Mathieson — Overhead Line Designer, ElectroNet
3.45	Modern line survey methods	Kirsty Mackie — Business Development Manager, Global Survey
4.00	Inspection regimes fit for purpose	Steve McLennan — Asset Engineer, The Lines Company
4.15	A perspective on the design of asset inspection regimes	Carl Rathbone — Structural Engineer, LineSmart
4.30	Close out / forum close	

EEA thank you for your participation in the Overhead Lines Designers forum.

VENUE SPONSORSHIP



FORUM ORGANISER AND FACILITATOR



LineSmarts
Carl Rathbone

The overarching purpose of the Line Designer's Forum is to:

- Develop and sustain an overhead line design professional community. Provide a networking opportunity for overhead line designers and subject matter experts.
- Communicate good practice overhead line design, including specific examples of design and generally design which is consistent, efficient, effective, and safe
- Support and promote industry learning programmes.
- Communicate and roll out new industry standards, regulations and resources (e.g. EEA publications).
- Foster and co-ordinate collaboration across industry members and stakeholders
- Support the development of overhead line design subject matter experts and future leaders.