

NTNewsletter



March edition: INPEX, Eni Kitan Oil Field, Sherwin Iron, Territory Uranium Company, Timor-Leste Supply Chain Opportunities, Marine Supply Base, Darwin Prison, SIHIP, New OHS legislation, 2011 Northern Territory Training Awards Nominations Now Open!, Major Projects – Industry Development Program, Research & Development Tax Concession Program, The Northern Territory Research and Innovation Grants Program, MBANT Budget Breakfast 2011

GM's Welcome

There is currently significant effort being put into preparing companies for what is seen as an outstanding future for the Territory, underpinned by the oil & gas industry in the shorter term but mining will make a considerable impact in the coming years as well. The NT Government, industry associations and the ICN are taking individual initiatives or pooling resources to ensure information on a range of subjects such as quality assurance, procurement practices and labour issues are disseminated.

While this is well and good, it is very well understood that the business environment in many areas is not great at present. It is appreciated in some circumstances that addressing the immediate work flow is a higher priority than worrying about what may happen in one year's time. That said, this needs to be balanced out against a bright future where opportunities will present themselves and quality, procurement and labour issues need to be either in place or some sort of pathway well defined.

The message to attend to these issues is pretty much in line with the previous newsletter. However, it is quite concerning that there are still sceptics trying to pour cold water on a range of projects that we see developing quite quickly. There are excellent grounds for optimism – and excellent grounds for getting your house in order.

KEVIN PETERS,
GENERAL MANAGER

Stats

March 2011*

Number of enquiries processed: 409

Total estimated value: \$316.72 million

Number of companies nominated: 409

Number of new companies registered: 31

*Figures only for 1– 30 March 2011 inclusive

Top Story

The twelfth Annual Geoscience Exploration Seminar (AGES), which showcases the rich mineral potential of the Northern Territory, was held in Alice Springs on 21-23 March 2011 at the Alice Springs Convention Centre and attracted record numbers of delegates who were in the Territory to examine the exploration potential.

Exploration in the Territory continues to be at record levels and as the exploration industry continues to gain momentum, new geoscience data from the Northern Territory Geological Survey (NTGS) under the Bringing Forward Discovery initiative is highlighting the untapped potential of under-explored areas in the Territory.

The AGES conference saw the NT Government's \$14.4m Bringing Forward Discovery initiative presented to around 320 prospective explorers. Resources Minister Kon Vatskalis said the Bringing Forward Discovery initiative has contributed to record levels of exploration expenditure in the Territory, with \$166.7 million invested during 2010.

"The mining industry contributes around 30% of economy directly, with considerable flow on

benefits to local and regional businesses," Mr Vatskalis said.

The AGES conference comes off the back of the latest mineral exploration figures which show a new all time record has been reached in mineral exploration in the Territory.

ABS statistics released in early March show the highest ever recorded expenditure for mineral exploration in the December quarter in the Territory. They show the NT has a new record of \$166.7 million, up 12% on the \$148.4 million spent in 2009.

A Mining Services Expo was also held in conjunction with the AGES conference. The exhibition featured approximately 40 booths providing a broad range of information for businesses, exploration companies and miners and provided a unique opportunity to talk directly to decision makers from businesses at the heart of the Central Australian mining and exploration industries.

Some of the topics covered at the seminar were;

- Results and interpretations of a major new

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Projects

INPEX

The ICN is currently being engaged by the high level bidders on both the offshore and onshore side of the Ichthys Project Invitation To Tender (ITT) phase. The ICN has made over 2100 nominations for NT companies during this phase to date.

Eni Kitan Oil Field

The operator of the Kitan FPSO Glas Dowr, Bluewater, visited Darwin and Dili in late February/early March and made contact with a number of companies previously nominated by the ICN for various packages as listed on ICN Gateway. The Bluewater representative indicated that the quality and capability of Darwin based companies impressed and that without the involvement of the ICN a great deal of these potential opportunities may have been passed on to their current international suppliers.

The Glas Dowr is still scheduled for arrival in the JPDA in the 3rd quarter of 2011 with first production anticipated for 4th quarter 2011.

Sherwin Iron

ICN have built a good relationship with Sherwin Iron Procurement Darwin personnel to maximise NT business involvement with companies already actively engaged in supply to the project. Further forward planning, relating to the proposed mining camp, vehicle hire, access roads, dams ect is currently being conducted by Sherwin Iron with positive comments being received on NT capability.

Territory Uranium Company

Contact has been made with Territory Uranium Company with first initial enquiries being received and additional meetings are scheduled for early April where we anticipate further engagement.

Projects

Timor-Leste Supply Chain Opportunities

One new EOJ opportunity listed on ICN Gateway recently may point toward an upcoming increase on infrastructure spending in Timor-Leste.

The Government of Timor-Leste will be embarking on a significant infrastructure construction program. This will include: Roads and bridges, ports and airports, water and sanitation, public housing, urban planning and the construction of urban centres, basic service facilities (schools, hospitals), and strategic industry infrastructures and facilities. The EOJ specifically relates to the outsourcing of preparation for all tender documents, including bid specifications, implementation of all procurement processes and evaluation for Major Projects

Marine Supply Base

Since being listed on ICN Gateway the project has received some 123 registrations of interest. ICN is work closely with the consortia, Toll Holdings, ShoreASCO and POAGS, to maximise opportunities for local business.

Darwin Prison

Since being put up on ICN Gateway the project has received 179 registrations of businesses wanting to be involved in the project. The ICN has made 135 nominations for NT companies so far.

SIHIP

Work is complete or underway in 47 communities and a number of town camps across the Territory with more than 250 Indigenous people employed. 1094 refurbishments and rebuilds are now complete and 80 are underway. A total of 188 new houses have been built and work is continuing on the construction of another 162.

Projects

Indigenous Painting Team in Galiwin'ku

The Indigenous Painting Team (IPT) working for Territory Alliance is lead by local painter and mentor Gary Baker. There are 90 new houses in various stages of completion in Galiwin'ku which means there is a lot of work for the team who paint the new houses inside and out. The team are learning new skills such as rolling, cutting and mixing paints. The supervisors are being taught to check for painting and safety standards. A new IPT logo coloured black, brown and white has also been created by the team to symbolise the cultural mix of people who are all working together. The young men are enrolled in a Certificate II in Building and radiate pride in their handiwork.

Ngukurr trainees leading the way

New Future Alliance (NFA) trainees are leading the way with their training achievements and in the construction work they are carrying out at Ngukurr. The 26 trainees are working with NFA supervisors and mentors to complete the rebuilds. In addition to the work on the houses they are also using their carpentry skills to make furniture for the houses and community. All of the trainees are enrolled in a Certificate II in Construction with 10 trainees due to complete their qualification in the coming weeks before moving on to apprenticeships.

“Want to Win Northern Territory Government Work”? - Having problems responding to the “value for money” criteria? Procurement Liaison is able to visit your premises and provide guidance and access to Business Support programs to improve your tendering capability. For assistance contact Procurement Liaison:

Telephone: 08 8999 5212 or
Email: tony.egginton@nt.gov.au



Snip'its

APACHE Energy will sidetrack the promising Zola-1 well in the Carnarvon Basin in order to reach the total depth and fully evaluate the gas-bearing reservoirs intersected to date.

Source: Petroleumnews.net

WOODSIDE Petroleum has struck gas at its Martin-1 well in the offshore Carnarvon Basin permit, WA-404-P.

Wireline logs confirmed the well had intersected about 100 metres of gross gas within the Triassic target after recovering gas samples to surface and establishing a gas pressure gradient.

Source: Petroleumnews.net

RUM Jungle Resources is seeking to raise \$A9.63 million to fund exploration on its fertiliser projects in the NT. The company has received verbal commitments from sophisticated and institutional clients of Blackswan Equities and Southern Cross Equities for the issue of 21.4 million shares at 45c per share.

Source: Miningnews.net

SWISS mining giant Xstrata is seeking to spend \$A270 million in a bid to more than double zinc-lead concentrate production at its McArthur River mine in the NT in an effort to keep the mine financially viable.

Source: Miningnews.net

LEIGHTON Contractors has picked up two new gold-mining contracts worth \$A317 million in Western Australia and the Northern Territory

Source: Miningnews.net

Information for Business...

New OHS legislation

New OHS legislation will be introduced by December 2011 and become operational on 1 January, 2012.

The legislation will have implications for all business owners, company directors and managers who will be subject to new compliance obligations. The Model Work Health and Safety Bill has been agreed to by the Commonwealth and NT Governments and will be supported by model Work Health and Safety Regulations and model Codes of Practice.

For further information on the changes contact John Emslie on 8982 8110 or email jemslie@chambernt.com.au

2011 Northern Territory Training Awards Nominations Now Open!

Nominations are now open for the 2011 Northern Territory Training Awards! The NT Training Awards are the Department of Education and Training's annual premier event recognising training excellence and achievements by Territory businesses, training organisations, VET Teacher/Trainers, apprentices, trainees and students. Information, eligibility details, selection criteria and valuable nomination tips are available on our website at www.growingnt.nt.gov.au

Nominations close Friday 13 May 2011.



Information for Business...

Major Projects – Industry Development Program

The Northern Territory Government in collaboration with Industry invites you to attend the Project Management and Project Control seminar.

When: Wednesday 13 April 2011
Time: 8.30am – 12.30pm
Where: Darwin Convention Centre

Aim of the seminar:

The seminar will inform participants of the range of available project management systems, their relevance, effectiveness, appropriate application and also provide the opportunity to learn the steps for successful project management, control and reporting.

Bookings are limited. Call Brett on 08 8999 5201 to book your place today.

For further information visit <http://www.nt.gov.au/inpex> or email investment.dbe@nt.gov.au

Research & Development Tax Concession Program
Lodgement Deadline: 30 April 2011

Are you developing innovative products, processes or services? If so, you may be eligible for the Australian Government's R&D Tax Concession.

Eligible companies may be entitled to deduct 125 per cent of qualifying expenditure when lodging their tax return. The R&D Tax Concession also has a 175% Incremental (Premium) and a Tax Offset component.

Please note that companies must be registered in order to claim the concession. The deadline for submission of applications for registration for the R&D Tax Concession for the 2009-10 income year for June balancing companies is Thursday, 30 April 2011.

For further information about this program, call Joachim Schoen on (08) 8941 6261, or Clalia Mar on (08) 8941 9250.



Information for Business..

December 2010 Figures Now Available

Construction Snapshot is published by the Department of Planning and Infrastructure to provide an overview of Construction Industry activity greater than \$1 million in the Northern Territory.

Input and feedback is encouraged by contacting the Construction Snapshot Project team on e.

constructionsnapshot.dpi@nt.gov.au or p. (08) 8924 7303.

Construction Snapshot is produced on a quarterly basis and available from

www.nt.gov.au/infrastructure/services/snapshot

How to grow your business with Innovation

A seminar will be presented in Darwin Thursday April 14 from 4 - 6 pm at the Quest Function Centre, 55 Cavenagh Street, which will show ways to cost-effectively assess and commercialise ideas within your workplace.

A workshop for those interested will be held Friday, April 15, 2011 from 10 am - 4 pm

For further information visit www.eventbrite.com/org/895036705 or call Kym Cook at Enterprise Connect on (08) 8958 4900

MBANT Budget Breakfast 2011

The Territory Government Budget is handed down in the first week of May. You can hear first-hand from the Territory Treasurer, Hon Delia Lawrie MLA on Budget 2011 initiatives and what it means for the Territory construction and housing sector at the MBANT Budget 2011 Breakfast.

For more information contact Emily at MBA NT p. (08) 8922 9666 or e.marketing@mbant.com.au

Top Story Cont...

(Continued from page 1)

deep seismic survey over the southern Georgina Basin and eastern Arunta Region (*Geoscience Australia*)

- Latest information on new phosphate and potash discoveries in central Australia (*Rum Jungle Resources*)
- New information on uranium mineral systems and controls on mineralisation in the Ngalia Basin (*CSIRO*)
- The Quantum rare earths and uranium discovery beneath the Daly Basin (*Territory Uranium*)
- Discovery of palaeochannel-hosted uranium mineralisation in central Australia (*Thundelarra Exploration*)
- Revitalisation of gold exploration in the Tanami-Arunta (*ABM Resources*)

For further information on the seminar visit

www.nt.gov.au/d/Minerals_Energy

Reference: NTG Kon Vatskalis 2011, Record Numbers at Australia's Most Popular Mining Seminar, media release, 21 March 2011, www.newsroom.nt.gov.au

Showcase Company

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The first edition of the Northern Territory News was published on February 8, 1952 initially as a weekly tabloid before being published twice weekly. In 1964 the paper started publishing five days a week and since 1979, when a Saturday edition was established, has continued in its current format as a six day per week publication.

The NT News is launching a new publication in April 2011 called 'New Horizon'. 'New Horizon' will be a news and advertising supplement dedicated exclusively to the oil & gas supply industry that will be published every second Thursday of the month, beginning 14 April.

Nigel Adlam, Chief Reporter at the NT News, is confident that INPEX will make a favourable investment decision at the end of this year and that the Territory's economy will enjoy unprecedented benefits from this. Regardless of INPEX's involvement, Darwin is still destined to be an internationally important oil & gas hub within a few years with the likes of Shell's Prelude project and Eni's Kitan project being on Darwin's doorstep.

'New Horizon' can help industry prepare for the oil & gas boom by keeping readers up to date on developments and giving Territory businesses an opportunity to tell the industry what role it can play. 'New Horizon' will also offer the latest news, views and photographs, and gives Territory businesses the chance to show what they can do for the oil & gas industry.

If your company has recently been involved in an **exciting** or **innovative** project, or if you simply have increased your company's capability in order to broaden your contracting opportunities, we'd like to know about it. Contact Elena Tsangari on elena.tsangari@icnnt.org.au for further information.

Note: Company Showcase selection is at the discretion of the ICN. Contributing company will be contacted and confirmed prior to publication.

COMMITTED PROJECTS

Project	Proponent	Project type	Start	Value (AU\$M)
Darwin Waterfront Redevelopment	NTG/ Darwin Cove Consortium	Hotels, Apartments, public spaces	2005	800
Pit expansion	ERA, Ranger	Uranium	2007	TBA
Weddell Power Station	Power Water	Power Station	2007	126.6
SIHIP	Territory Housing	New and upgraded remote housing	2008	672
RAAF Darwin	Dept of Defence	Base Redevelopment Stage 2	2008	49.8
Robertson Barracks	Dept of Defence	Redevel & Hardened Network Army	2008	72
Marine Supply Base	NT Government	Marine Supply Base	2012	TBA
Darwin Prison - Northern Territory New Secure Facilities PPP project (NTSF)	NT Government	Prison	2011	TBA
Wonarah Phosphate Mine	Minemakers	Phosphate	2009	200
Kitan	eni	FPSO	2010	TBA

PLANNED PROJECTS

Ichthys	INPEX	LNG Plant, Darwin	2010	25B
Nolan's Bore	Arafura Resources	Rare Earths	2013	TBA
LEAP Accommodation	Dept of Defence	New accommodation at NT Defence locations	TBA	210
Prelude	Shell	FLNG	TBA	TBA
Petrel/Tern/Frigate FLNG Project	GDF Seuz/Santos	LNG	TBA	TBA

PROPOSED / POTENTIAL PROJECTS

Darwin LNG Train 2	ConocoPhillips	LNG	TBA	TBA
Sunrise Gas Project	Woodside	Natural Gas / LNG	TBA	TBA
Tassie Shoal	MEO	Methanol / LNG	TBA	TBA
Evans Shoal	Magellan	Methanol	TBA	TBA
Roper Bar	Western Desert Resources	Iron Ore	2012	TBA
McArthur River	Redbank Copper	Copper	2011	TBA
Hodgson Downs	Sherwin Iron	Iron Ore	2012	180

Due to the nature of projects this information is subject to change. Please confirm currency with ICN (NT).

Information sourced from: NTG Construction Snapshot www.nt.gov.au/infrastructure/services/snapshot; NTG Potential Mining Projects in the NT

