

Media Release  
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## **Budding Scientists to again strut their stuff**

Local lines company, Top Energy, is sponsoring the Far North Science & Technology Fair for secondary school students again this year.

Open to Years 7 through 13 students and covering any area of science or technology, entrants are encouraged to choose a topic which involves investigation, challenge and imagination.

Top Energy Chief Executive, Roger de Bray, believes the Science & Technology Fair is an effective learning programme that fits well with three other education initiatives his company sponsors in the Far North; SwimSafe - which teaches primary school children to swim and be safe around water; the School-to-work Programme – which provides Scholarships for senior students wanting to get paid part-time work experience while still at school; and the Young Entrepreneur Programme - which provides training and mentoring for senior students and school leavers on how to establish their own businesses. “The Science & Technology Fair is an effective hands-on way to promote science and technology to our young people and at the same time help them to develop investigative and problem-solving life-skills,” Mr de Bray said.

In previous years, Fairs have attracted over 50,000 entries nation-wide, with applied science and technology becoming increasingly popular. Entries judged the best from each school progress to one of the 23 Regional Fairs and the best of these may be invited to enter the National Science & Technology Fair.

Said Tracey Chamlin, Convenor for the Top Energy Far North Science & Technology Fair, “We’re delighted Top Energy continues to support the Fair. It’s an excellent and practical way to promote science and technology to the young people of our region. The Fair is very popular with students every year and they continue to amaze us with their clever entries.”

This year’s Fair will be held on Friday 27 and Saturday 28 August, at the Kaikohe Memorial Hall, Kaikohe. The Fair will be open to the Public on Friday, from 9:00am - 2:00pm and again Saturday, after 2:00pm. Prize Giving will follow from 5:30pm.

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