

Media Release

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Budding Scientists 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, exhibitors are encouraged to choose a topic which challenges their imagination and encourages development of investigative and problem-solving life skills.

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 the 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 Education for Enterprise (E4E) - a programme based originally on the Far North pilot, Young Entrepreneur Programme and designed to develop an enterprise culture in schools. E4E is now being rolled out to schools nationally.

“The Far North Science & Technology Fair is an effective, hands-on way to promote science and technology to our young people, whilst at the same time helping them to develop problem-solving life skills. We have sponsored the Fair for the last 4 years. This year we’re again impressed with the creative approach students have taken with their exhibits,” Mr de Bray said.

In previous years, Fairs have attracted thousands of entries nation-wide, with applied science and technology becoming increasingly popular. Entries judged the best from each school progress to one of 23 Regional Fairs and the best of these may be invited to enter the National Science & Technology Fair. In the past, Far North students have been well represented at the national level.

This year’s Fair will be held on Friday 25 and Saturday 26 August, at The Centre, 43 Cobham Road, Kerikeri, Northland. Winning exhibits will be open to the Public on Friday, from 9:30 am to 1:30 pm and again on Saturday, from 10:00 am to 12:30 pm . Prize Giving will follow from 5:30pm onwards. END.

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