

# NT Newsletter



**March edition:** TNG, COE's Welcome, Tiger Brennan Drive Project, ConocoPhillips, KGL Resources, McArthur Basin, RUM Jungle Resources, AACo, Central Petroleum, Arafura Resources, Montara, Ichthys, SWEL, NT Resources Week, Developing the Territory, NT Training Awards, Katherine Regional Mining Forum, GOVE Assistance, Privacy Laws, NT Generator, BEC - Small Business Workshops.

## Top story

### TNG soars on Mount Peake MoU

The MoU will see the two companies cooperate on offtake and marketing arrangements, as well as technology exchange and other mutually beneficial deals relating to the Mount Peake project in the Northern Territory.

Agreements will be structured in a way that allow TNG to raise direct or third-party financing to underpin Mount Peake's development.

TNG managing director Paul Burton said the agreement represented a major milestone in the quest for finding partners to work on the financing and development of the project.

"Korea is a major advanced producer of vanadium end products, providing a strong market for TNG's anticipated production of high-purity vanadium pentoxide," he said.

"This is a further important step in the right direction for us

and provides, for the first time, a realistic end-user and experienced partner in the development of our major project.

"Woojin is an advanced company with a strong research and development arm that represents a good fit with our proprietary TIVAN downstream processing technology." TNG is currently at an advanced stage of a definitive feasibility study on the Mount Peake vanadium-titanium-iron development.

The MoU allows it to provide vanadium pentoxide samples for potential future offtake arrangements.

It also includes potential for TNG to add a Woojin ferro-vanadium plant to its TIVAN operation, which could potentially be placed in Malaysia.

Source: [www.miningnews.net](http://www.miningnews.net) (28 March 2014)

## Stats

### March 2014\*

Number of enquiries received: **343**

Total estimated value: **\$44.1m**

Number of NT nominations: **839**

Number of new NT company profiles:

\*Figures for 1–28 March 2014 inclusive.

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## Welcome

Master Builders Australia (NT) acting Executive Director, Dave Malone, has made comment in their monthly newsletter about local content and the need for both interstate and local companies to "do" rather than "talk" about their own commitment to local content.

Local content is a tricky thing. It contravenes WTO and ACCC regulations to mandate the use of businesses in a particular jurisdiction. However, what Dave is referring to is a stated commitment by companies to provide full, fair and reasonable opportunity for businesses in a jurisdiction. If you make the commitment, stick to it.

There are practical and financial reasons why local businesses should be given consideration. Interstate companies in particular who are winning contracts in the

Territory should look at those practicalities. The temptation to play safe and import existing supply chains without due consideration to the considerable capability of Territory businesses is highly disrespectful and verges on demeaning.

It's not difficult to 'test the waters'. That is fundamentally why ICN exists. Contact requesting information on local capability will be answered in a professional manner. I will defend grimly a company's right to award contracts on the basis of price, capability, capacity, etc, but I condemn roundly those that do not choose to do the right thing for Territory businesses in their own back yard.

**Kevin Peters,**  
Chief Executive Officer



## Projects

**Tiger Brennan Drive (TBD) Berrimah Road to Woolner Road project now live on ICN Gateway!** Visit [TigerBrennanDriveDuplication.icn.org.au](http://TigerBrennanDriveDuplication.icn.org.au) to submit your EOI against packages listed for this project.

THE Northern Territory government has released its concept design for the final \$103 million phase of the **Tiger Brennan Drive** duplication in rural Palmerston. The first contracts for the final section of Tiger Brennan Drive between Woolner Road and Berrimah Road will be announced in May and work will begin in August.

Source: [constructionindustrynews.net](http://constructionindustrynews.net)

**ConocoPhillips** and their co-ventures' Santos and SKE&S are preparing to undertake an appraisal drilling campaign in the Bonaparte Basin. The ConocoPhillips 2014/15 Bonaparte Basin appraisal drilling campaign involves the drilling, evaluation and potential production testing of up to three appraisal wells within retention lease permit area NT/RL5. This permit is located in Commonwealth Waters within the Bonaparte Basin, offshore Northern Territory. Source: [www.conocophillips.com.au](http://www.conocophillips.com.au)

Having shed several distracting projects, cashed-up **KGL Resources** is fully focused on the high-grade Jervois copper-silver-gold project in the Northern Territory. Jervois is 350km northeast of Alice Springs on the Plenty Highway that connects it to the NT's north-south rail line – the road-rail

transport infrastructure is already in place. Source: [miningnewspremium.net](http://miningnewspremium.net)

THE Northern Territory's highly prospective **McArthur Basin** is much larger than previously believed and could cover up to one quarter of the territory, according to seismic surveys by the private sector. The big news about the larger expanse of the McArthur Basin is based on new seismic surveys by Santos and unlisted Pangaea Resources. Santos is earning interests from unlisted Tamboran Resources in three exploration permits in the centre of the basin covering an area of more than 25,000 square kilometres.

Source: [energynewspremium.net](http://energynewspremium.net)

**RUM Jungle Resources** says an update to its Ammaroo phosphate deposit in the Northern Territory has exceeded expectations and placed it as the largest deposit of its kind in Australia. The total resource is now 1.08 billion tonnes phosphate at an average grade of 14% using a 10% cut-off grade. The new resource comes after Rum Jungle acquired Central Australian Phosphate last year, combining its existing Barrow Creek 1 with the adjoining Arganara resource.

Source: [miningnewspremium.net](http://miningnewspremium.net)

The **Australian Agricultural Company (AACo)** has secured a supply of natural gas for its abattoir under construction on the outskirts of Darwin. In a deal announced today with the APA Group, gas infrastructure will be built near the

site at Noonamah, to transport gas from the Amadeus Basin in central Australia. The gas will be used by AACo for generating electricity and thermal heating for the \$91 million meat works.

Source: *ABC Online*

**Central Petroleum Limited** has been advised by Santos, as the Operator of EP125 (Northern Territory), that the Ensign 918 rig has mobilised and is anticipated to recommence drilling operations at the Mt Kitty-1 well location in the Amadeus Basin on 24 March 2014.

Source: [centralpetroleum.com.au](http://centralpetroleum.com.au)

ONLY weeks after flagging a major cost cutting effort for its Nolans rare earths project in the Northern Territory, **Arafura Resources** has extended the project's capex savings to \$A504 million. A cost review of Nolans resulted in capex of \$1.4 billion, representing a 27% reduction on the August 2012 estimate. In September last year the company signed a memorandum of understanding with rare earths-focused company Shenghe Resources, which has since assisted in the appointment of two of China's pre-eminent institutions in rare earths beneficiation technology

Source: [miningnewspremium.net](http://miningnewspremium.net)

THAILAND's PTT aims to sell a billion-dollar stake of its disaster-hit **Montara** gas project, plus its Cash Maple gas fields in the Timor Sea off northern Western Australia, according to reports.

Source: [energynewspremium.net](http://energynewspremium.net)

## Ichthys

As at 31 March 2014, 18,597 company expressions of interest had been received for the Ichthys project, NT companies had received 15,287 nominations and total ANZ nominations were at 21,669.

There are currently 806 packages marked as Awarded on ICN Gateway with 8 new Ichthys work package listed in February.

### MOF Transition Pontoon arrives

A key piece of marine infrastructure for the construction of the Project's onshore processing facilities arrived in Darwin Harbour during March. The Module Offloading Facility Transition Pontoon (MOFTP) was offloaded and towed to its temporary mooring point south west of Channel Island. The MOFTP is 140m long, 40m wide and 12m deep. It has a dead weight tonnage of just under 20,000 tonne. Source: *JKC Community Bulletin # 93*

### Manigurr-ma Village soon to reach 1,000 resident milestone

The population at Manigurr-ma Village at Howard Springs will next month pass 1,000 residents. The Village, which is being constructed in four stages, is expected to be completed mid-year. Currently the Village has the capacity to accommodate 2,700 residents with the first three phases of construction complete. Source: *JKC Community Bulletin # 94*



## Company showcase

## Upcoming events

**SWEL**

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Located in the heart of Alice Springs, Specialised Welding and Engineering (SWEL) commenced operations in October 2012 with two directors and 1 apprentice. Within six months SWEL increased their workforce to 8 and again to 12 within 12 months.

Within 18 months, SWEL had become one of the first companies in Alice Springs able to provide certified welding and certified welding inspections, which placed them a step above their local competitors.

Starting out 18 months ago with smaller projects averaging around \$10,000, SWELs increased capability and capacity saw them triple their revenue in their second financial year and now sees them carrying out projects to an average of \$150,000. The continual growth of the company also supported their efforts to become authorised as a Panel contractor for Power and Water remote generation division and certification with Supply Nation as an Indigenous business.

With the recent purchase of a 500 Unic Rope crane for their flat bed truck and sand blast and painting equipment, the companies capability is given an additional boost and by the end of 2014, SWEL aim to have completed and certified for ISO 9001 and 4801. This certification will also make them one of the first companies in Alice Springs within the Fabrication Industry to hold this accreditation.

SWEL are thrilled to have worked with clientele who have strict protocols in place and as a new business are proud to say that they were able to meet all of their requirements which was further acknowledged when they became authorised as an approved contractor for SANTOS. SWELs Quality, Health, Safety and Environment Systems passed SANTO's audit making them the only company in Alice Springs in their industry to be approved.

SWEL are excited by the level of growth they have been able to achieve in a short amount of time and with the companies Managing Director being the only person currently in Alice Springs to hold AS1796, CWI Certified Welding Inspector, IWIS International Welding Inspector Senior, RWC Responsible welding coordinator and IWS International welding supervisor qualifications, SWEL and are looking to expand the size of project work even further.

**6th Annual NT Resources Week 2014**

Held annually, NT Resources Week sees the South East Asia Australia Offshore & Onshore Conference (SEAAOC) run alongside the Mining the Territory Conference. The event brings together leading personnel in mining, exploration, engineering, oil and gas to meet and discuss the latest developments and happenings in the regions of Northern Australia and South East Asia.

2014 will also see the inaugural Building the Territory Conference form part of NT Resources Week.

Further information can be found by visiting [ntresourcesweek.com.au](http://ntresourcesweek.com.au)

**Bringing key stakeholders from government and business together to develop Northern Australia**

**Developing The Territory** is a leading 2-day forum held at the Convention Centre on 16th and 17th June 2014, bringing leading individuals and decision makers from the Government and private businesses to gain on-the-ground insights to investment opportunities, new projects and policy initiatives stimulating sustainable economic development across Northern Australia. - Further information can be found by [Clicking Here](#)

**Nominations now open for the NT Training Awards**

The NT Training Awards are the Department of Business annual premier event recognising training excellence and achievements by Territory businesses, training organisations, apprentices, trainees, trainers and students.

Winners from the Northern Territory Training Awards (in aligned categories) will have the opportunity to compete with other states and territories to be named the best in Australia at the Australian Training Awards.

For further information on the awards and how to nominate, visit [trainingawards.nt.gov.au](http://trainingawards.nt.gov.au) and join the Facebook page at [facebook.com/NTTrainingAwards](https://facebook.com/NTTrainingAwards)

## Becoming a showcase company

**Interested in being a showcase company?** Is your business located within the Northern Territory? Has your business recently been involved in an **exciting** or **innovative** project? Or have you **increased your capability** in order to broaden your contracting opportunities? If so, we would like to 'Showcase' your business in an upcoming Newsletter. Please call or email Elena to discuss on p. 08 8922 9434 or e. [elena.tsangari@icnnt.org.au](mailto:elena.tsangari@icnnt.org.au)

Please Note: inclusion of information in the ICN (NT) newsletter is at the discretion of ICN (NT). Contributing Showcase business will be contacted and confirmed prior to publication.



## In the news

### 2nd Annual Katherine Regional Mining & Exploration Forum

Run in partnership between Informa Australia, the Northern Territory Government and the Katherine Mining Services Association, the 2nd Annual Katherine Regional Mining & Exploration Forum, has been confirmed to take place on the 28-29 May 2014 at the state of the art Godinymayin Cultural Centre in Katherine, NT. Last years inaugural event attracted over 120 attendee's.

Further information and registration information can be found by [clicking here](#)

### Gove business assistance

The NT Government's Gove Business Assistance program is a suite of programs tailored for Nhulunbuy-based businesses that are looking to stay on in the town following the Rio Tinto refinery closure. It also provides support to businesses seeking to make changes in their operations to suit the emerging business environment.

The programs provide funding for Gove businesses to engage professional consultants who will work with them to assess their operating environment, their marketing strategies, staff and training, and their opportunities for sustained profitability. The production of a general business overview is the first step in the Gove Business Assistance program.

For further information on the assistance please [click here](#)

## National news

Changes to the Privacy Act 1988 (Act) commenced on 12 March 2014. Until now, the Act has not taken into account the rise of the internet and the predominance of online business dealings. Online banking and billing and electronic marketing did not exist when the Act was implemented.

The changes include a new set of Australian Privacy Principles (APPs) that will regulate the handling of personal information by Australian Government agencies, **small businesses** with an annual turnover of more than \$3 million **and** either:

- *trades in personal information*
- *provides services under a Commonwealth contract*
- *runs a residential tenancy database*
- *is related to a larger business*
- *is a reporting entity under the Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Act.*

Read [here](#) to see how you are covered by the Privacy Act.

### NT Hydro Generator sets renewable milestone

Electricity provider, Power and Water Corporation has successfully commissioned a micro-hydro generator at Manton Dam, a milestone for renewable energy in the Northern Territory.

The micro-hydro unit is the first grid-connected hydro power station in the Northern Territory. Situated at the currently full and spilling Manton Dam, south of Darwin, the micro-hydro generator is working at its full 4kW capacity.

The Manton Dam generator will produce enough energy to supply electricity to four households, with the micro system operating full time using the dam flow.

Feasibility planning for the Manton Dam generator was performed by the Centre for Renewable Energy at Charles Darwin University. Power and Water aim to use the potential wet season spill from the dam in a second stage of the hydro-power project in the future.

Source: [energybusinessnews.com.au](http://energybusinessnews.com.au)

## Small Business workshops

BEC runs a series of **FREE workshops** around the Northern Territory aimed to provide an introduction to participants into 5 specific and important areas related to the commencement of a business. For a current list of workshops being run in your area visit [www.becnt.com.au](http://www.becnt.com.au)

**BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL** – Book online or please phone 1800 229 500.

The Business Enterprise Centre Darwin Region has been funded by the Federal Government to assist small businesses to maximize their growth potential, prosperity and sustainability through enhanced access to information and advice on issues important to establishing, sustaining and/or growing their businesses.

Over the next two years the SBAS program will provide:

- The Alice Springs Business Improvement Program
- The Darwin Tradies – All Systems Go Program, and General Business Support Services to people looking to start a new business and existing businesses in the Darwin, Palmerston, Litchfield Shire and Alice Springs Regions of the Northern Territory.

Please [click here](#) for further information on these programs.



Looking for our projects list?  
Find it on our website  
[icnnt.org.au](http://icnnt.org.au)

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