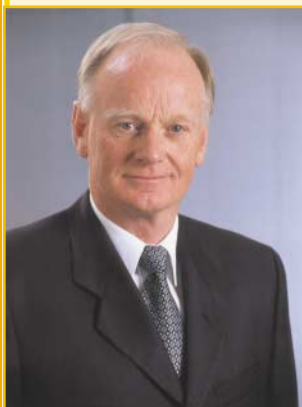


# MainPower Live Lines

## Energy Link to Further its Expansion in South East Asia



Allan Berge

Mr Greg Sise, Managing Director of Energy Link Limited has announced the Company's intention to expand its off-shore operation in Singapore.

MainPower holds a 50% ownership interest in Energy Link.

Energy Link has its head office in Dunedin with a second office in Wellington and is one of New Zealand's leading advisory services and software companies

operating in the electricity sector. Energy Link specialises in computer software for electricity trading, risk management and electricity market modelling. It also produces a range of short and long term electricity and gas price paths and reserve forecasts.

Energy Link is also recognised as New Zealand's leading training organisation in the areas of electricity pricing, electricity trading and related risk management.

Mr Allan Berge, Managing Director of MainPower and Chairman of Energy Link, confirmed today that Energy Link will be establishing an office in Singapore early in the New Year. Mr Berge explained that Energy Link's business in this part of the world had grown to a point where a local presence is now considered essential if the Company is to take full advantage of the opportunities that the electricity market in that region provides.

During the past year, Energy Link staff have been commuting between Singapore and New Zealand on a regular basis and will continue to do so following the establishment of the Company's office in Singapore, albeit that the number of trips required will reduce significantly.

## MainPower Merger



Craig Shepherd

Mr Berge explained that this part of MainPower's business operates in a very competitive market where scale of operation is considered essential. "The merger makes good commercial sense", he said. Both companies have worked closely together for a number of years and it is through this relationship that the merger evolved.

VirCom/EMS employs approximately 60 full time staff and has developed formal sub-contractor arrangements with approximately 75 independent contractors throughout New Zealand.

VirCom will be giving high priority to growing the business and will look off-shore to achieve this.

Allan Berge, Managing Director of MainPower announced on 1 December that "VirCom", MainPower Contracting's Metering and Related Services Division, merged its operation with Auckland-based Energy Management Services Limited.

Twenty-one of MainPower Contracting's staff have transferred to the new Company, which in the future will be known as VirCom Energy Management Services Limited or VirCom/EMS.

Mr Craig Shepherd, the General Manager of Energy Management Services Ltd has been appointed the Chief Executive of the new company.



VirCom EMS Administration Supervisor, Rose Rutledge (right) assists Irene Nel with a customer enquiry at the Rangiora office.

## MainPower Supports Hurunui Water Management Investigation



Jim Lee

Mr Jim Lee, the General Manager of Enterprise North Canterbury recently announced that an application for funding from the Sustainable Farming Fund had been successful. Mr Lee explained that \$200,000 will be provided by the Fund for the purpose of undertaking a detailed investigation of the water resource of the Hurunui and Waipara River catchments and its use. Mr Lee further explained that additional financial support on a dollar for dollar basis was also being provided by a number of North Canterbury organisations, including MainPower.

Mr Berge, the Managing Director of MainPower said that he was delighted with the Sustainable Farming Fund's commitment to the Hurunui region and the success of Enterprise North Canterbury, in particular the efforts of Mr Jim Lee in securing such a high level of commitment.

Mr Berge said the economic well-being of any district, including the Hurunui District, in nearly all respects will be influenced by how well the District's water resources are managed. MainPower had no hesitation in supporting Mr Lee in his endeavours and will continue to support the investigation financially as it progresses.

Mr Lee said that Enterprise North Canterbury, formerly the North Canterbury Economic Development Trust, was established jointly by the Waimakariri and Hurunui District Councils for the purpose of promoting North Canterbury as an innovative and progressive region. Mr Lee said that his Trust was of the view that this investigation was consistent with this vision.

Mr Lee explained when making the announcement, that the investigation would be challenging. He said that there were many socio-economic, agricultural, environmental and cultural interests to be considered. "Understanding these often competing interests, would be given high priority and factored into the many reports that the investigation would produce", said Mr Lee.

MainPower supports the view expressed by Enterprise North Canterbury that the success of this investigation will be dependent on the Hurunui community having a good understanding of the purpose and scope of the investigation and this will only be achieved through good management and good communication with all groups in the District having an interest.

MainPower congratulates Enterprise North Canterbury on its most recent success.



Season's Greetings to all our Customers from the Board and Staff of



We thank you for your support during the year, and wish you all a Safe and Happy Christmas.

We look forward to being of service next year.

**24 Hour Faults Service, Phone: 0508 60 70 80**