

THRIVE :: 2025

Doing things better

18-19 FEBRUARY | JAMES COOK HOTEL, WELLINGTON



engineering
new zealand
te ao rangahau

DAY ONE: TUESDAY 18 FEBRUARY

8.30 – 9.30am	Registration and welcome coffee
9.30 – 9.40am	Welcome – Professor Jan Evans-Freeman, Pro-Vice-Chancellor Sustainability, University of Canterbury and President, Engineering New Zealand MC – Tania Williams, General Manager, Engineering New Zealand
9.40 – 10.35am	Andrew McLennan Engineering Manager, Airport Equipment
10.35 – 10.55am	Break
10.55 – 11.45am	Strengthening Engineering Firms through AI Integration Matt Ensor Director, Kia Ora AI
11.45am – 12.35pm	Panel discussion: What engineers wished their managers knew to help support them as early career stage engineers BROUGHT TO YOU BY NEW ERA TECHNOLOGY Chaired by Richard Templer, Chief Executive, Engineering New Zealand Alyce Lysaght Engineer – Water, WSP Sanmit Kaimal Project Engineer, KiwiRail Mackay Blaikie Civil Engineer, Tonkin + Taylor Jack Gillard Project Manager, Brian Perry Civil Meg Fahey Stations Engineer, Primary Assets, Transpower
12.35 – 1.15pm	Absolute Immigration workshop/presentation Arno Nothnagel Immigration Director, Absolute Immigration
1.15 – 1.55pm	Lunch BROUGHT TO YOU BY ABSOLUTE IMMIGRATION
1.55 – 2.45pm	A session with Dentons
2.45 – 3.35pm	Grappling with infrastructure and climate change Professor John E Tookey School of Future Environments, AUT
3.35 – 3.55pm	Break
3.55 – 4.55pm	Panel discussion: Walking the path, paving the way – what engineering leaders have learnt and continue to learn for tomorrow's challenges BROUGHT TO YOU BY NEW ERA TECHNOLOGY Chaired by Richard Templer, Chief Executive, Engineering New Zealand Graeme Hill General Manager, Group Engineering, Fonterra Helen Trappitt Director, Lewis Bradford Consulting Engineers Josie Fitzgerald NZ Land and Water Leader, Aurecon Sulo Shanmuganathan Chief Engineer, NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi Mark Evans Chief Executive Officer, Heb Construction Professor Jan Evans-Freeman Pro-Vice-Chancellor Sustainability, University of Canterbury and President, Engineering New Zealand
4.55 – 5.30pm	Olaf Adam Head of Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG), Westpac NZ
5.30 – 7pm	Networking drinks

DAY TWO: WEDNESDAY 19 FEBRUARY

7.00 – 9.15am	Networking breakfast served in the hotel restaurant BROUGHT TO YOU BY UC ONLINE
8.30 – 9.30am	Registration and welcome coffee
9.30 – 9.40am	Welcome – Professor Jan Evans-Freeman, Pro-Vice-Chancellor Sustainability, University of Canterbury and President, Engineering New Zealand MC – Richard Templer, Chief Executive, Engineering New Zealand
9.40 – 10.35am	A session with Professor Jarrod Haar, Dean's Chair in Management and Māori Business, Massey University
10.35 – 11.15am	Who stays, who wants to leave, who leaves, and why? Insights from the BeLongEng longitudinal project on engineers Associate Professor Enda Crossin Head of Department, Electrical and Computer Engineering, University of Canterbury
11.15 – 11.35am	Break
11.35am – 12.30pm	An activity with Professor John E Tookey, School of Future Environments, AUT
12.30 – 1.20pm	Panel discussion: Getting the best out of your interns and grads BROUGHT TO YOU BY NEW ERA TECHNOLOGY Chaired by Dee Johnston, People Experience Manager, Engineering New Zealand Dianne Arnold Group People & Culture Manager, BCD Group Janine Perrin Emerging Talent Program Lead NZ, Transport & Infrastructure, Downer Mark Mundell Technical Director – Central Power, Beca Nicola Dunn Associate Director, Humankind
1.20 – 2pm	Lunch BROUGHT TO YOU BY ABSOLUTE IMMIGRATION
2 – 2.45pm	How companies position their brand to recruit the right talent Speaker TBC HainesAttract
2.45 – 3.35pm	Panel discussion: Integrating AI into your workflows BROUGHT TO YOU BY NEW ERA TECHNOLOGY Chaired by Tania Williams, General Manager, Engineering New Zealand Bing Xue Deputy Head of School – Engineering and Computer Science, Te Herenga Waka — Victoria University Matt Ensor Director, Kia Ora AI Luke Williams Director of Advancement, Holmes Chaz Nielsen Account Executive, New Era Technology
3.35 – 3.45pm	Reflection: What I will take back to work?
3.45 – 3.50pm	Closing thoughts
3.50 – 4.15pm	Break

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