



## BANZ Interest Group Conveners 2012

**BANZ has 4 Interest Groups as follows:**

- **Biogas Interest Group**
- **Liquid Biofuels Interest Group**
- **Wood Fuel Interest Group**
- **Wood Pellets Interest Group**

### Biogas Interest Group



[www.auckland.ac.nz](http://www.auckland.ac.nz)

**Keith Jones, University of Auckland** – Keith is a Senior Research Engineer with the University of Auckland specialising in alternative fuels.

Keith has worked on a wide range of fuels including natural gas, CNG, LPG, biogas, synthetic gas and liquid biofuels, in roles as R&D engineer at the University and also as Director of the Gas Association's Gas Development Centre. Email: [k.jones@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:k.jones@auckland.ac.nz) [www.biogas.org.nz](http://www.biogas.org.nz)

### Liquid Biofuels Interest Group



[www.vertichem.com](http://www.vertichem.com)

**Kevin Snowdon, Vertichem Technologies Ltd** - Kevin Snowdon has over 20 years of experience in the rural and forestry sectors, having held strategic roles with a particular emphasis in business development and innovation. He has worked in a number of organizations establishing and implementing forestry projects and monitoring environmental impact, harvesting and technology transfer all in the context of strategic and business management.

Currently, Kevin is General Manager and Feedstock Manager for Vertichem, a company whose goal is to make specialty chemicals green. His responsibilities have included establishing nurseries, securing land, ensuring suitable planting materials from several input sources, and overseeing trials for establishment and weed control. Kevin has lent his operational management skills to deal regularly with biomass suppliers and liaise with officials in the communities in which Vertichem operates. He has also collaborated closely with Vertichem's science and technology team to develop new business plans and enlist partners for land, resources and equity to advance Vertichem's corporate objectives. Email: [kevin.snowdon@vertichem.com](mailto:kevin.snowdon@vertichem.com) [www.liquidbiofuels.org.nz](http://www.liquidbiofuels.org.nz)

## Wood Fuel Interest Group



**Brightwater**

[www.brightwater.co.nz](http://www.brightwater.co.nz)

**David McGregor, Brightwater** – David's current role with Brightwater is Group Business Development Manager. Prior to joining Brightwater in April 2011 he spent the previous 29 years working in the industrial energy plant sector with Easteel/RCR Energy.

*In 1982 he joined Easteel as an apprentice fitter and turner and over the following 29 years had various roles looking after sales, projects, and then became a shareholder and director of Easteel. In 2005, Easteel was sold to RCR at which time he took on the role as NZ Divisional Manager for RCR Energy.*

*From 2007 he has been the General Manager for RCR Energy AU and NZ. In terms of biomass he has been involved with most of the recent biomass industrial boiler projects throughout AU and NZ over the last 20 odd years. The customers for these projects have included; Juken Nissho, EFI (Blue Mountain lumber, Winstone Pulp), CHH LVL, Nelson Pine, Pan Pac, Visy, Tachikawa, Claymark, Hyne Timber etc.*

*David's vision as convenor of the WFIG is to see NZ establish a profitable and sustainable wood fuel industry so that heat energy plant users outside of the wood industry can install wood fired heat energy plants with confidence that they will have long term access to competitively sourced wood fuel. This in turn is in keeping with NZ's desire to retain a clean green image whilst helping achieve our renewable energy targets.*

**Email:** [david.mcgregor@brightwater.co.nz](mailto:david.mcgregor@brightwater.co.nz)

## Wood Pellets Interest Group



**Spark Energy**

[www.sparkenergy.co.nz](http://www.sparkenergy.co.nz)

*Eduard Ebbinge, Spark Energy Ltd - Eduard is MD of Spark Energy, a leader in efficient wood heating and the supply of fuel-grade wood chips to a range of commercial customers around New Zealand.*

*Prior to founding Spark Energy, Eduard developed the Southern hemisphere's only indoor ski resort, Snowplanet, in Auckland and remains involved as non-executive director and shareholder.*

*His involvement in this energy-intensive business triggered a keen interest in energy management and spurred the launch of Spark Energy in 2007.*

*Prior to embracing entrepreneurial initiatives, Eduard had a successful career in mergers & acquisitions advisory working for Credit Suisse First Boston and Bankers Trust in Auckland.*

*Eduard has a masters degree in Economics from Amsterdam University and further studied at Uppsala University in Sweden. Email: [ebbingenz@me.com](mailto:ebbingenz@me.com)*

*[www.woodpellets.org.nz](http://www.woodpellets.org.nz)*