



The Australian  
Power Institute

## Membership Information

# What is the API?

The Australian Power Institute (API) is a not for profit organisation established as an initiative of the power industry with the vision of achieving: **Sustainability and Excellence in Australia's Power Engineering.**

Achieving this vision will enhance the performance and competitiveness of the Australian power industry organisations.

### The key Objectives of API are:

- Provide a sustainable supply of quality power engineering graduates to industry
- University undergraduate power engineering teaching and learning provides relevant industry skills
- Value added continuing professional development programs ensure that professional engineers throughout their careers acquire engineering skills at the forefront of industry best practice
- Support industry innovation initiatives through applied research to transition the industry to the future
- API is positioned as a respected organisation leading the national development of power engineering skills

### Some specific benefits of Membership include:

- Attraction of high quality students to power engineering to provide an adequate pool of high quality graduates
- Support for increasing the representation of females and diversity in power engineering
- Discounted fees for Continuing Professional Development Programs run by API
- Access to API Bursary students for vacation employment projects
- Regular Newsletters setting out trends, achievements and other information and opportunities to be involved in API activities
- A bi-annual Workforce Planning Survey Report of available statistics regarding industry workforce needs, student and academic needs and activity
- And more... (See page 3 for full listing)



The benefits to individual organisations relate to securing a sustainable source of engineering skills in an industry that has a technically complex asset base supported by specialised capability. The university and continuing education system needs to ensure that professional engineers will continue throughout their careers to acquire engineering skills at the highest level and at the forefront of knowledge, benefiting both individuals and industry.

The cooperation of industry and cooperation amongst universities are priorities of the API.

# How The API works

The API channels membership funds to meet its education and research objectives. The API Board includes members at Senior Executive level representing industry who determine these objectives. The API is guided by the following principles:

- The API has a coordination and facilitation role and works through existing educational institutions on a selective and competitive basis.
- The work of The API is Australia wide in its scope and international outlook.
- The initiative covers undergraduate, postgraduate, R&D, and continuing professional development.

### The activities supported by the API include:

- Postgraduate Courses/ Short Courses in areas of need
- Undergraduate curriculum development
- Continuing Professional Development Training - API Summer Schools annually
- Masterclasses by experts in relevant fields
- Support to increase the representation of females in Power Engineering
- Development of distance education and flexible delivery methods
- Support for applications for government grants, such as through the Cooperative Research Centre and the Australian Research Council programmes
- Support for industry initiated research, development and demonstration projects

# Aims and Objectives

The Australian Power Institute (API) represents major Australian power companies in addressing the skills gap in power engineering whose Value Proposition is:

"To Deliver a Sustainable Supply of Highly Skilled Power Engineering Professionals Working Effectively to Meet the Challenges of Creating Australia's New Energy Future and Underpin the Technical and Commercial Success of Member Companies in the Energy Sector. This will be achieved through Maximising Collaboration Between Industry, Universities, Professional Bodies and Government in Power Engineering Education, Research and Training"

Continuing demand for engineering expertise is being driven by accelerating change in the energy industry. Transitioning to a low carbon economy while addressing community concern regarding energy sustainability, security and price demands high quality engineering solutions. Containing electricity prices demands significant innovation in the sector to do more with less.

Professional engineering expertise is critical to this innovation. Australia's unique energy challenges means solutions cannot be merely imported from overseas.

The supply of power engineers is constrained by an aging workforce

with commencing elevated retirement rates, fragmentation of professional career paths due to changed industry structures, low participation rates in high school advanced maths and science studies, and intense competition from other fields including the mining industry. API research of member companies shows a universal shortage of Senior Engineers so important in meeting current and imminent technical challenges.

As electricity is at the heart of the modern Australian society, commerce and industry, failure to attract, develop and retain the best engineering talent could have dire consequences. Australia could fail to meet its

objectives of lower carbon emissions and to supply competitive (low price), reliable electricity to underpin the Australian economy. Australia is facing the greatest transformation in the past century of its energy system by moving to a low carbon, cost effective, reliable energy industry, and critical to achieving this will be attracting and educating highly skilled power engineering professionals. API has developed a number of industry sector strategies to address this issue, and has the strong engagement of the power industry and Australian universities in their implementation.



## The key objectives of API are:

- Provide a sustainable supply of quality power engineering graduates to industry
- University undergraduate power engineering teaching and learning to provide relevant industry skills
- Value added continuing professional development programs
- Support industry innovation initiatives through applied research
- Position itself as a respected organisation leading the national development of power engineering skills

# Organisation and Membership

Membership of the API is open to all organisations who have an interest in the power industry in various categories of membership. An annual membership fee is determined by the category of membership. Membership fees will entitle Members to various benefits according to Membership Category.

The membership categories are as follows:

**Governor Members** are organisations with substantial and diverse levels of technical expertise requirements with a major role in the power industry, and which are expected to make a long-term commitment to the broad industry and API Governor Members will each be entitled to appoint a director to the Board of the API.

**Principal Members** are major organisations with substantial levels of reliance on technical expertise but with fewer technical staff than Governor Members. Principal Members will be entitled to elect two directors from among themselves to the Board of the API when there are more than eight Principal Members.

**Industry Members** are organisations with a high level of technical involvement in the industry. Industry Members are entitled to vote but have no rights to appoint directors.

# Governance

The API is governed by a Board of industry member nominated directors which will comprise of the following:

- Not less than 3 but not more than 15 directors
  - A minimum of 2 Directors from an entity operating predominantly in the transmission sector of the electricity industry
  - A minimum of 2 Directors from an entity operating predominantly in the distribution sector of the electricity industry
  - A minimum of 2 Directors representing industry sectors with a close association or relevance to the electricity industry sectors referred to above
  - A minimum of 1 Director from each State. (A Director is taken from a particular State if he or she is from an entity with significant operations in that State in the electricity industry or in an industry sector with a close association or relevance to the electricity industry, whether or not that entity has significant operations in any other State)
- \*The Board of API meets a minimum of 4 times per year

## Membership Benefits

The API aims to ensure:

- Attraction of high quality students to power engineering specialties
- University power engineering schools attain excellence towards world's best standards
- There is an adequate pool of high quality graduates
- Support for increasing the representation of females in power engineering
- Graduate employees have access to rigorous but flexible avenues to acquire specialist skills appropriate to industry sector
- There is a process for updating these skills throughout an engineering career; and
- The university academic staff provides a resource for industry in investigating significant and complex technical issues.

## Specific Benefits of Membership

### Governor Members:

- Direct involvement in setting objectives and initiatives through participation as a Director of the API Board
- Direct input into API lobbying and government submissions on professional power engineering capability
- Maximum discounted fees for Continuing Professional Development Programs run by API (20-30% discount)
- Direct involvement in API initiatives to increase the representation of women in power engineering
- Access for organisation staff to API Power Engineering Curriculum modules
- Opportunities for direct access to visiting experts involved in API programs
- Opportunities for company profiling during API university and schools outreach programs
- First choice of access to API Bursary Students for vacation employment projects

### Principal Members:

- Opportunity for 2 Principal Member organisations to be directly involved in API Board activities.
- Significant discounted fees for Continuing Professional Development Programs run by API (10-20% discount)
- Second choice access to API Bursary Students for vacation employment projects
- Access for organisation staff to API Power Engineering Curriculum modules

### Industry Members:

- Discounted fees for Continuing Professional Development Programs (5-10% discount)
- Access to API Bursary Students for vacation employment projects

### All membership Levels:

- Regular Newsletters setting out trends, achievements, other information and opportunities to be involved in API activities
- A bi-annual Workforce Planning Survey Report of available statistics regarding industry workforce needs, student and academic needs and activity

# Contacts

The Australian Power Institute Ltd.

## Contact:

Mike Griffin  
Chief Executive  
Email: [mike.griffin@api.edu](mailto:mike.griffin@api.edu)

## Postal Address:

Endeavour Energy  
PO Box 811  
Seven Hills  
NSW 1730

## Website:

[www.api.edu.au](http://www.api.edu.au)



## The Australian Power Institute Membership Application Form

The Membership Application is for the consideration by the Board of the API.

### Organisation Information

Name of Organisation: \_\_\_\_\_

Registered Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Street Address*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*City* *State*

Postal Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Street Address*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*City* *State*

### Contact Person

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Last* *First* *M.I.*

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Alternate Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### Membership Category

Membership Type:


Governor:

Principal:

Industry:

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return to: API Membership  
Australian power Institute  
Endeavor Energy  
PO Box 811  
Seven Hills  
NSW 1730

 **CONTACT US**  
[www.api.edu.au](http://www.api.edu.au)  
Mike Griffin (API CEO)  
[mcgriffin@caloundra.net.au](mailto:mcgriffin@caloundra.net.au)

The Australian Power Institute  **CONNECT WITH US ON LinkedIn**

SEARCH:  **LinkedIn**  
The Australian Power Institute