

A Busy Start to the Year

It's been a busy beginning to the year with Simon and Steve taking off to Asia to touch base with our distributors while Gavin and Jeeva hosted a full capacity training course on the Gold Coast in February. Dave Boadle attended the Ozflux eddy covariance training and information week at Creswick around the same time and Simon has only just returned from a week's training with HydroTas in, you guessed it, Hobart.

The rest of the year has Steve and Dave travelling to Borneo, exhibiting and attending at the Asia 2010 conference in Kuching - Sarawak, a team attending and exhibiting at the Clean Energy Conference in Adelaide, Irrigation 2010 in Sydney, Enviro 2010 in Melbourne, back to Sydney for Ecogen 2010 and then, to finish off the year, the Australian Hydrographers Association Conference in WA. We look forward to seeing you at one or many of these events throughout 2010. More information is available by clicking the links below.

Tradeshow / Conference	Location	Dates	Venue
Asia 2010	Sarawak Malaysia	March 29-30	Borneo Convention Centre Kuching
<i>International Conference & Exhibition on Water Resources and Renewable Energy Development in Asia</i>			
Clean Energy Conference	Adelaide	May 3 - 5	Adelaide Convention Centre
<i>2010 National Clean Energy Conference & Exhibition</i>			
Irrigation 2010	Sydney	June 8 - 10	Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre
<i>Irrigation Australia 2010 Trade Fair</i>			
Enviro 2010	Melbourne	July 21 - 23	Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre
<i>Enviro 2010 Conference & Exhibition - Solutions for a Sustainable Future</i>			
Ecogen 2010	Sydney	September 5 - 8	Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre
<i>Ecogen 2010 - The Power to Deliver ~ Uniting the Clean Energy Industry</i>			
AHA 2010	Perth	October 19 - 21	Burswood Entertainment Complex Perth
<i>Australian Hydrographers Association Conference 2010</i>			

Ozflux - Creswick Campus

The Practical Side of Managing an Eddy Covariance Station by Dave Boadle

First week of February, the Ozflux group ran a training and information course at the Creswick campus of Melbourne University aimed at the practical side of managing an Eddy Covariance flux station. The first day was dedicated to basic boundary layer micro-meteorology theory and the soil-plant-atmosphere continuum. Subjects covered included fluxes of water, carbon and energy in these systems. Some of the ancillary measurements covered included leaf area index, allometry and sapflow and their importance to the whole energy balance was outlined.



Figure 2: Lindsay Hutley explaining some of the finer points of flux stations



Figure 1 A well guyed flux tower

The next day was more in the eddy covariance theme. Firstly basic eddy flux theory was covered with essential concepts such as atmospheric structure, stability and turbulence covered along with airflow in complex terrain and nocturnal fluxes, followed by instrumentation. The Campbell Scientific equipment, the CR3000 in particular, was well praised for its reliability and low power use. Many people asked about the new CS150 combined 3D anemometer and Infrared gas analyser.

Wednesday gave us the opportunity to see a new flux station functioning in the Wombat State Forest close-by to Creswick. This site not only had a functioning Campbell's eddy covariance system but also a soil gas exchange monitoring system. The safety aspect was emphasized in this part of the course, after which the participants returned for some practical exercises in data handling and gapfilling.

The week was informative and extremely useful for potential flux system managers and support people. Many thanks to the Ozflux community for the opportunity to attain some of their vast store of knowledge and experience.