

## NEWS FROM THE AUSTRALIAN MARITIME COLLEGE

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# Media Alert

## Chiefs of Staff, News Directors

24th November 2016

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## Showcasing renewable technologies for wastewater treatment

An event hosted by the University of Tasmania tomorrow, Friday 25th November, will bring together industry and research to showcase new wastewater treatment technologies for agricultural, winery, brewery and civic applications in Tasmania and Australia.

The Future Technologies in Wastewater Treatment: Industry-Research Colloquium will see industry leaders discuss challenges and opportunities with Australian scientists working on wastewater treatment technologies.

Among the innovations being showcased is a renewable technology being trialled by researchers at the University of Tasmania, aimed at helping Australia's dairy industry deal with the costly, energy-intensive process of cleaning dairy wastewater.

Microbial Fuel Cell technology harnesses the bacteria found within wastewater – including dung, urine, milk residue and detergents – to generate electricity. These bacteria can extract electrons from their food sources and feed them into an electrical circuit to generate power – which in turn is used to speed up the biological wastewater treatment process.

Dr Rouzbeh Abbassi, Dr Vikram Garaniya and Dr Trevor Lewis from the University of Tasmania will describe the trials they have conducted with a proof-of-concept, scale Microbial Fuel Cell, which is installed in a laboratory at the University. Their work has been funded by a Tasmanian Community Fund grant.

### Media Opportunity

- Dr Rouzbeh Abbassi, Dr Vikram Garaniya and Dr Trevor Lewis from the University of Tasmania will be available to comment on the event and discuss their work with the Microbial Fuel Cell
- Time: 12.30-13.30, Friday 25th November.
- Location: Sir Raymond Ferrall Centre, University of Tasmania, Newnham Campus, Launceston. Building X, grid reference BE21 on the following map:  
[http://www.utas.edu.au/campuses/documents/maps/Newnham\\_Building\\_Name\\_Map\\_June-2014.PDF](http://www.utas.edu.au/campuses/documents/maps/Newnham_Building_Name_Map_June-2014.PDF)

### Images

An image of the researchers with the Microbial Fuel Cell scale model is available:  
<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/ockp1q9cbk8ijph/AAB0IZ6HXM7JHjCrMZk04wSHA?dl=0>

### Information released by:

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