

The Institution of Engineers, Australia; Sydney Division
Engineering Heritage Committee

ORAL HISTORY PROGRAM

INTERVIEWEE : Keith Harvey Bashford

TAPE NUMBERS :

IEA SYD: BJ6 & 7

INTERVIEWER : Bob Jackson

INTERVIEW DATE : 2 May 1997

NUMBER OF TAPES : 2

RESTRICTION ON USE : None

INTERVIEW TAPE LOG

Tape 1 : IEA SYD : BJ6, Side A

TAPE TIME	SUBJECT	NAMES & KEYWORDS
0.00	Start of Tape	
	Introduction by Bob Jackson	
1.00	Early life in Orange and Blayney, New South Wales	John Duvall & Jessie Bashford
2.00	Moved to Sydney Drummoyne High School	Drummoyne
3.00	Pre-apprenticeship course at Sydney Tech at Ultimo	
5.00	Sydney County Council apprenticeship	
6.00	Electrical Engineering Diploma - explains role of University of Technology	University of Technology - became University of New South Wales
9.00	Trend from Diploma Engineers to University Degree Engineers during the 1960s. About 50% of Engineers obtained qualifications on a part-time basis in the 1950s and early 1960s	
11.00	Some background on Sydney County Council - involvement with power generation (before 1950s) as well as electricity distribution.	Ross Bunyon
16.00	Discuss experiences gained in U.K. while on scholarship in 1966 (see C.V.)	
17.00	Compares British with Australian work methods	
22.00	Describes setting up of Lane Cove Testing Station and its raison d'être (late 1960s)	
24.00	Solving problems of failures in circuit breakers	Reyrolle Switchgear

26.00	Specifying and buying major plant (as design engineer)	
28.00	Goes into considerable detail regarding capability of Testing Station and its accreditation.	
	End of Side A	

Tape 1 : IEA SYD : BJ6, Side B

TAPE COUNTER	SUBJECT	NAMES & KEYWORDS
1.00	Testing station engineers	Ray Finch
2.00	Shift to higher voltages in substations	
3.00	Underground tunnelling and ducting in Sydney City	
4.00	Reflects on some design and procurements appointments- Installation of mainframe computer at Sydney County Council HQ (1969-70) - Customer account information	
7.30	Dealing with IBM as a supplier	IBM
8.00	Promoted to managerial post in Transport Branch in 1987	
10.00	Problems of implementing a fleet management system for the specific requirements of a public utility - difficult to get an appropriate package (to replace manual fleet management system)	
14.00	Removal of transport operations from Pyrmont to Homebush	
16.20	Introduction of internal costing - users of vehicle fleet were charged	
23.00	The evolution of Sydney Electricity to a commercial orientation (from the mid 1970s)	
25.00	Amalgamation with other County Councils about 1980 (Brisbane Water etc)	
26.00	Introduction of uniform electricity charges by Wran Labor government - a controlled price environment - caused certain anomalies across the state.	Neville Wran, Premier
	End of Tape 1	

Tape 2 : IEA SYD : BJ6, Side A

TAPE COUNTER	SUBJECT	NAMES & KEYWORDS
0.00	Sydney Electricity pricing and management in the 1980's	
1.20	Change name from Sydney County Council to Sydney Electricity in 1990. Stronger focus on quality	TQM (Total Quality Management)
2.30	Talks about 1980s period and about making Sydney Electricity more efficient	
4.00	By 1990s Sydney Electricity becomes more commercial	
4.40	Move to name change to Energy Australia in the late 1990s and the commercialisation push - paving the way for privatisation	Energy Australia
6.00	Believes privatisation of all public utilities is inexorable	
9.00	The question of downsizing and career opportunities for young people. Interviewee harks back to his own career prospects and opportunities	
11.00	Issues of trade and competitive advantage - a personal view	
15.00	End of interview	