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Energy and infrastructure consulting firm attracts US expert to head up their Intelligent Infrastructure practice:
Marchment Hill Consulting appoints Michael Kaltenbaugh

Michael Kaltenbaugh has joined Marchment Hill Consulting as head of their Intelligent Infrastructure practice. The practice has grown from Marchment Hill's extensive experience in teasing out the complexities of this rapidly evolving infrastructure landscape and competitive marketplace. Organisations are looking for objective counsel to assess competitive threats and understand emerging business opportunities that exploit the capabilities of this 21st century infrastructure evolution.

Founder and Managing Principal of Marchment Hill Consulting, Neil Gibbs said that Michael's appointment was a reflection of the rapid emergence of intelligent technology. "Smart infrastructure – whether smart metering, smart grids, electric vehicles, or numerous other technologies, and all of the possibilities these open for customers 'beyond the meter' – is an area with a very strong market interest, not only for electricity distribution and retail businesses, but for several other emerging players."

Michael Kaltenbaugh commented, "The opportunity to be at the forefront at a 'once in a generation' transformation from an analogue to a digital infrastructure creates tremendous business opportunities. The prospect of being able to create value in new and exciting ways for existing and emerging entrants is a guiding principle within the Marchment Hill culture, and a highly sought after ingredient in our clients' success. Australia and the United States are two of the most competitive markets for products and services in the world. Australia's progressive environmental and societal sensitivities will create quite a dynamic market for the foreseeable future.

"Marchment Hill and its senior executives are uniquely positioned at the forefront of the transformation of the infrastructure and resources markets. Their thought leadership and expertise is highly valuable in a fast changing and evolving market."

Michael further commented, "Smart grid transformation is reminiscent of the early days of the internet, which was enabled by the transition from an analogue to a digital infrastructure. New products, new services and new participants will find their way into the market. Some will win; some will not be as successful. But collectively they will shape the outcome of this transformation by enhancing the power of data in consumers'

hands. Demand-response schemes, carbon or greenhouse offsets; micro-generation, distributed generation: the opportunities appear boundless.”

Neil Gibbs said that, for the first time, consumers will have digital access to consumption patterns, and become empowered to respond to pricing or consumption signals in near-real time – and this is expected to have a profound impact on behaviour patterns, utilities investments and potentially environmental outcomes.

Michael Kaltenbaugh has 25 years' experience in the electricity, gas and water industries. He has been directly involved in the transformation of competitive energy markets in the United States, and more recently in Australia. Michael brings a unique blend of operational experience, technology understanding and knowledge of regulatory processes to the Marchment Hill team.

Michael is the Program Manager for the smart electricity meter rollout in Victoria, known as the Advanced Metering Infrastructure program, which will commence rollout of the 2.6 million new meters in September. The Victorian Government anticipates that over time, these smart meters will help customers better understand how much electricity they are using at any given time.

Marchment Hill Consulting has been the Program Manager for the Victorian Advanced Metering Infrastructure Program since August 2007.

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