

# Fuel for Thought

## International Visitors

Tere paevast!  
That's 'hello' in Estonian, and just one of the things we have picked up from a visit to our New Fuels Development Centre by a delegation from the Estonian oil shale and energy company, VKG.



**Chris Anderson**  
Site Operations  
Manager, QER

The group visited the site to have a look at the operations of our technology demonstration plant and hold a series of talks on matters of mutual interest. Estonia is the world's leading producer of oil derived from shale, and the industry has been established there for many years, with its major use being for the provision of energy.

In fact, oil shale is by far the major source of energy for heating in Estonia, which is pretty important when you realise temperatures can fall well below zero in winter and the average annual temperature is just above 5 degrees Celsius.

Estonia has been a member of the European Union since 2004, and its oil shale industry needs to be compliant with European environmental and industry standards and regulations.

Apart from Estonia, countries including China, Brazil, Jordan, Germany and Israel are also involved in the operation or development of oil shale industries.

The United States also has substantial oil shale reserves, although the focus there is more on drilling for oil deposits in shale formations and developing shale gas reserves, rather than mining oil shale deposits.

Meanwhile, at our New Fuels Development Centre we are approaching hot commissioning of our oil upgrader, which will be used to refine our oil into high quality fuels, mainly ultra-low sulphur diesel and aviation fuel.

We're looking forward to testing and trialling these fuels to highlight their properties, and suitability for heavy transport in Australia.

If you are interested in learning more about our industry, there's plenty of information available in the visitor centre at our site, located on Landing Road at Yarwun.



Creating new fuels for Australia

[www.qer.com.au](http://www.qer.com.au)