Network Operational Systems Lead

Position Description

Location:	10 Chelmer Street, Oamaru
Reports to:	Network Information Manager
Direct Reports:	Nil
Who We Are:	We are a team of 100 passionate and dedicated staff based in the vibrant coastal town of Oamaru. Our district offers a great lifestyle, extending from the mountains to the sea with affordable housing and no traffic worries!
	We bring electricity from the national grid to over 13,000 customers in North Otago and parts of South Canterbury.
	Our mission is to promote regional growth and wellbeing through the provision of innovative and sustainable energy solutions for our customers and we are already delivering on our strategy to achieve this.
	We trust our people and care about their wellbeing. We provide modern, flexible working conditions, generous development opportunities and company health insurance.
Area of Responsibility:	Network Information Team and Control Room Operations
Work Requirements:	This is a permanent, full-time position.
	Note: due to the 24/7 nature of our business, some work outside normal business hours may be required (e.g., during major faults, emergencies or for community event support)
Our Values	

Overview of the role

We are seeking an experienced and forward-thinking **Network Operational Systems Lead** to lead the delivery and maintenance of Network Waitaki's operational technology (OT) systems, including SCADA and ADMS. This role plays a key part in ensuring that our OT environment remains secure, resilient, and future-ready to support a smarter, more responsive electricity network.

Key responsibilities

Operational Technology and System Administration

- Administer and support the Advanced Distribution Management System (ADMS) to maintain high operational readiness.
- Manage and configure Intelligent Electronic Devices (IEDs) and SCADA controls, ensuring reliable performance across the network.
- Lead the implementation and maintenance of communications infrastructure which will enable Network Waitaki's smart grid.
- Collaborate with IT to ensure seamless integration while considering cybersecurity and lifecycle support of operational systems.

Data Integrity and Model Management

- Maintain and validate network models, ensuring accuracy of GIS system connectivity data and user interfaces.
- Perform device mapping and ensure standards-based implementation of system components.
- Maintain clear, structured documentation of data models, configuration standards, and related procedures.

System Development and Enhancement

- Develop, test, and implement system enhancements, including coding, database queries, and dashboard reporting.
- Identify and document opportunities for continuous improvement in systems and processes including automation and streamlining of manual tasks.
- Contribute to Network Waitaki's long-term operational systems roadmap.
- Maintain clear and well-structured documentation of procedures and standards.

Stakeholder Coordination

- Liaise with contractors and vendors to ensure effective delivery of works aligned with technical and operational standards.

Health and Safety

- Take responsibility for own health and safety and support the team to safe work outcomes.
- Ensure own actions keep self and others safe including following all required safety procedures and rules.
- Identify, report and assist to eliminate hazards in own workplace.
- Support a strong safety culture through active participation in workplace safety initiatives.

Preferred Attributes

	Essential	**Desirable**
Formal Education	• Tertiary Level Engineering Qualification	• Electrical Registration
Experience	• Minimum 2 years or experience administering ADMS and/or SCADA	• Experience in Database Querying • Experience with Communication Networks and SCADA protocols

Ideal Candidate Profile

- Demonstrated experience supporting or delivering operational technology (OT) – SCADA and/or ADMS
- Knowledge of the New Zealand electricity distribution sector or related industry experience
- Solid understanding of real-time systems, data integration, and field device communications
- Proficient in SCADA systems and common protocols such as DNP3, Modbus, and IEC 61850
- Experienced in integrating network models and asset data into OT platforms
- Strong collaborator who works effectively across technical and operational teams
- Excellent analytical and troubleshooting skills, with a practical, solutions-focused mindset
- Committed to delivering secure, reliable, and future-ready OT environments through continuous improvement

Key Relationships

Internal	External
• Network Information Team • Control Room and Operations Team • Network Waitaki Internal Staff • Network Waitaki Contracting Staff	• System Vendors • Contractors and Consultants • Peers from other EDBs • Transpower