



Jason Franklin

PowerNet Chief Executive

Prior to joining PowerNet in 2012 as Chief Executive, Jason worked in a variety of senior roles for Rio Tinto and the Electricity Corporation of New Zealand (ECNZ).

While with Rio Tinto, he held a number of commercial roles in New Zealand, Australia and the United Kingdom. These roles included the management of the energy arrangements for Rio Tinto in those countries.

Returning to New Zealand in 2008 with Rio Tinto, he spent four years as Commercial manager with New Zealand Aluminium Smelters at Tiwai Point.

His experience within the electricity generation sector with ECNZ, followed by 14 years' experience in the industry as a major electricity user with Rio Tinto, led to his appointment as Chief executive for PowerNet.

Jason has held a number of industry positions — board member of the Major Electricity Users Group and a member of the Wholesale Advisory Group for the New Zealand Electricity Authority. Currently he is a Director of SmartCo Limited, Director of Electricity Engineers Association and Chair of Rugby Southland.

Born and raised in Southland, is married to Thérèse and they have three children. He has a Bachelor of Commerce (Accounting & Finance) and a Post Graduate Diploma (Economics & Marketing).

Jason's vision for PowerNet is for the Company to continue to build upon its success and to be the leading provider of electricity network management and related services.



Ross Smith **PowerNet Chair**

Ross's early career was as an Accountant based in Christchurch after graduating with a BCom from Canterbury University.

A career change later saw him move into Sales and Marketing roles in the Travel Industry spending 6 years based in Melbourne, Los Angeles and Sydney before returning to New Zealand and back into a senior accounting role with the Guthrey Group of Companies in Christchurch.

He later made the move to a senior management role at United Building Society (later to become United Bank) before being appointed to the Chief executive role at Southland Building Society (SBS) in 1992.

SBS grew rapidly under his direction and saw the establishment of three new successful subsidiaries serving Insurance, Funds Management and Consumer Finance and the SBS being granted Bank Registration in 2008 and becoming SBS Bank.

Early on Ross was appointed to the Board of SBS and each of the Subsidiaries.

During his time at SBS Bank Ross attended the 3-month Residential Harvard Business School Advanced Management Program.

Ross stepped down from his role as Managing director of the SBS Bank Group in 2014 after 22 years in the role having grown the business from \$300 million in assets to just under \$3 billion.

While at SBS Ross was appointed to the Board of Electricity Invercargill Ltd and subsequently PowerNet as an independent Director. During his tenure he has also been Chair of Power Services Ltd and Peak Power Services Limited and has recently been appointed to the Governing committee of OtagoNet Joint Venture.

Ross is married to Chris and now resides in Queenstown.