

APPITA TECHNICAL MEETING

DATE: Thursday 5th March 2026

VENUE: Copthorne Hotel, Fenton Street, Rotorua

PROGRAMME

6:00pm Registration and Cash Bar, House Bar

6:30 Dinner, Restaurant

Technical Programme – Redwood 2

7:30 ***“Reforming the paper industry through sustainable material innovations”***

Elina Paakkonen, Visiting Researcher - Materials, Engineering and Manufacturing, Bioeconomy Science Institute

Elina Pääkkönen works as a Visiting Researcher at Bioeconomy Science Institute Maiangi Taiao for six months, and she comes from VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland. She will give a presentation on how new technologies, like foam forming and dry forming, can help us to reform the paper industry. Often, there is a valley of death that the industry needs to pass through while developing something new. She explains how this can be done with the help of R&D&I and shows some examples. She also gives insights into her current work, in which she explores how local raw materials can be turned into higher-value fibre products.

8:00 ***“Storage Tank Failures and Repairs in Pulp and Paper”***

Tom Knight, Team Lead, Index Engineering Ltd

This presentation examines the primary damage mechanisms affecting atmospheric storage tanks in pulp and paper environments and reviews API 653-compliant repair methodologies. Topics include the silicon-kraft liquor corrosion phenomenon, contamination-induced degradation, underfloor corrosion assessment, and repair strategies ranging from localised shell plate replacement and patches to complete tank reconstruction with corrosion-resistant alloys. Attendees will gain practical knowledge for identifying vulnerable assets, selecting appropriate repair techniques, and implementing material specifications that balance cost with long-term reliability.

ORGANISER:

Steve Keyte, Appita Section Committee, stevegkeyte@gmail.com

COST: Members: \$55 Non-members: \$65 Retired Members: \$30

Payment can be direct credited to: Appita NZ Section, ANZ, Rotorua 06 0413 0178800 00

If you pay via credit card, please inform when registering.

Pre-arranged invoicing also accepted.

(NB: Payments by American Express will incur a credit card surcharge of 3%)

Please register **by Monday 2nd March** at the latest by contacting

Shiraz Khashim, Appita at ShirazK@appita.com

(People who register for technical meetings, but fail to attend on the night will be charged. Please advise Shiraz Khashim as early as possible if you can no longer attend. The hotel now charges for the final number given)