The first YES! event for 2014 provided an insight into career progression and development of engineers within the subsea industry. The room was packed with young professionals and students from both engineering and science fields, eager to hear the presenters.

Dashing YES! committee members, Ibrahim Ayoub (Wood Group Kenny) and John Bills (GE Oil & Gas), introduced the experienced and inspirational presenters: Ian Wilson (Project Engineer, Woodside Energy), David Scholtz (Lead FEA/Structural Engineer, Wood Group Kenny) and David Parks (Subsea Engineering Course Coordinator, Curtin University).

Some key perspectives from the evening to consider:

- “Your degree says you are an engineer, but is this true?” With 5 year experience you will be a ‘useful’ engineer and with 10 year experience you will be ‘competent’. Make the most of your opportunities when you are young because the real learning and your professional ‘experience’ comes post-university.

- To be a good engineer you need to have an understanding of how things will be constructed and installed. If you get the chance, site experience is a huge plus.

- It is good to have the personal desire to become chartered; you must want to be recognised as being competent in your own profession, rather than thinking you must attain chartered status because it is required.

Networking commenced post presentations, with young engineers and scientists, students and experienced engineers sharing industry discussions and a few laughs over drinks and finger food.

A huge thank you to our sponsors for this event: Curtin University and Woodside Energy. Thanks also to the YES! Committee who organised the event. But most importantly, we’d like to thank all the attendees for making the effort to come and we hope you gained some insight into the benefits of being chartered and its role in your professional careers.

The next YES! event is “Engineering Connections” which will be held on 19th June 2014 – keep an eye out for the flyer.

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