

Tuesday 27 July 2010

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## SP AusNet teams up with the Tour of Gippsland to promote safety to children

Primary schools students around Gippsland are being taught how to stay safe as part of the SP AusNet Schools Promotion in the lead up to the Tour of Gippsland - a five day bicycle race that starts on Wednesday 27 July in Wonthaggi.

The Schools Promotion sees a professional cyclist, who is racing in the Tour, teaming up with an SP AusNet spokesperson to talk about how to stay safe while cycling and dealing with electricity in the home and school.

SP AusNet spokesperson Kate Groves said, as Gippsland's electricity distributor, SP AusNet was pleased to be supporting the Tour of Gippsland this year to promote electrical safety to children.

"Professional cyclists from the Tour of Gippsland do a great job of inspiring local primary school students to achieve their dreams," Ms Groves said.

"The SP AusNet School Promotion is about motivating children to be safe around electricity in their home and school.

"Safety is SP AusNet's first priority, for our employees and the communities in which we operate, so we see this as a great opportunity to help school students understand these important safety messages," she said.

Schools visited included primary schools at Noojee, Neerim District, Neerim South, Kongwak, Inverloch, Warragul North and Willow Grove.

SP AusNet's prototype electrical vehicle, which the power company is trialing in conjunction with CSIRO, will be leading the 160 cyclists racing in the Tour of Gippsland through a course that will cover the Bass Coast, Baw Baw, Latrobe, Wellington and East Gippsland.

Ms Groves said the electric vehicle trial would help evaluate these vehicles' potential to reduce power usage during peak times.

"The electric vehicles operate in a similar way to electrical vehicles currently on the market, but they can travel at any speed without using petrol instead of only up to 40km per hour," she said.

Race director John Craven said SP AusNet's involvement in the tour was an exciting all-round morale-booster for the event.

"The schools' promotion is a key aspect of the tour's community activities and SP AusNet has embraced this promotion enthusiastically," he said.

"It's also great to have the CSIRO electric vehicle at the front of the race," Mr Craven said.

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