

## **W08: VOICES OF EXPERIENCE HIGH TECH ENTREPRENEURS**

Time: 1.5 hours

Chair: Cathy Marr  
DAWEG executive and BC Gas

The purpose of the panel is to explore the strengths which women bring to emerging businesses, and to give audience members information on how to handle some of the challenges that this career path presents. The panel members are entrepreneurs in a variety of sectors. Each panelist in turn will speak for ten minutes on topics which frame the discussion, and then the audience will have an opportunity to ask questions.

Framework topics:

Many people wonder whether they could be an entrepreneur. Why did you decide to do it?

What do you need to know before you start? What was your best source of information?

What surprises did you have?

What is the difference between running a science/engineering business and a non-technical business?

Identify key factors for success, e.g. financial management, teamwork, original idea, marketing.

Explain two or three tasks that you do well, and why they are important.

What are the most serious challenges and how do you deal with them?

What advice would you give to other women about starting their own business?

### **PANELISTS**

Moderator: Cathy Marr, DAWEG executive and BC Gas

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