Sound advice
Unpacking HVAC acoustics.
THE HOUR OF POWER

Based in Frenchs Forest in North Sydney, Tony Power, Affil.AIRAH, is Technologies Director for Polaris Technologies.

Responsibilities
The title of Technologies Director basically means I support our team and technical partners. I look at possible innovations and help them come to life after they began as just a thought bubble. This is a very serious matter but needs to be fun. Then there is the sales hat. This is also a challenge, but we have a system that seems to be working.

Passions
I love innovation where it applies to the science of machines. I also have a 1927 AJS motorcycle that I ride a lot; this was very high innovation for its time. Long-distance bike rides help with fitness. Other than that, I like doing the usual family and sport stuff, and am thinking of getting back into outrigger competition.

Finest professional hour
Having come from a long history in HVAC contracting I guess the 50 or so apprentices that I have seen to completion. Quite a few have their own successful businesses now. My finest hour is still to come.

Important career lessons
Just keep going – that’s not always easy. Be honest, take proper advice and work out who the time wasters are.

Whom do you most admire?
Elon Musk, he is changing the world 10 steps at a time.

Dream sabbatical
Ride my bicycle to Darwin. Don’t think my wife will come along.

What is your motto?
Wake up in the morning and be happy.

Greatest personal achievement
I have been with the same woman for 40 years – don’t know how that happened.

Favourite book
Lord of the Rings – have read it a few times. It covers a lot of ground – good guys, bad guys and perseverance. That stuff happens in life.

Favourite film
Lawrence of Arabia. I have always been a bit suspicious of government.

Favourite website
I don’t understand “favourite website”. It’s a bit like favourite grain of rice.

How would you describe yourself?
Mostly normal.

What is success to you?
I see success as achieving something that is challenging, and being recognised for it. That can be a business venture, relationship or driving a new innovation into the market. I also enjoy tough physical challenges and have had some successes there.

What does AIRAH membership mean to you?
Gives me a great insight into where this industry is heading in Australia. I have attended a lot of the events and find the speakers at times very passionate. I like that. AIRAH is necessary and evolving. I believe membership should be so much higher.