

MITO News

July – August 2009

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Tool Blacks on world stage

Good luck to our three automotive industry Tool Blacks who are competing in WorldSkills Calgary 2009 in September.

WorldSkills promotes high performance among young people in key industries vital to economic and social success. It encourages global competency standards by raising awareness of the importance of skills and the use of technologies.

Representing the New Zealand automotive industry are:

🌀 **Automotive Refinishing -**

Jemma Bond
Rowells Collision Repair Centre Limited, Whangarei

🌀 **Automotive Technology -**

Marcel Woods
Renton Motors (1976) Limited, Kaikohe

🌀 **Autobody Repair -** Jesse Clinton

Elite Collision Care, Christchurch.

MITO is sponsoring half of the travel and accommodation costs for Jemma, Jesse and Marcel to compete at WorldSkills Calgary 2009. MITO has also contributed \$3000 towards the expenses of the three automotive WorldSkills NZ Experts accompanying the Tool Blacks – John Tuau (Automotive Refinishing), Malcolm Whinham (Automotive Technology) and Rick Lunn (Autobody Repair).

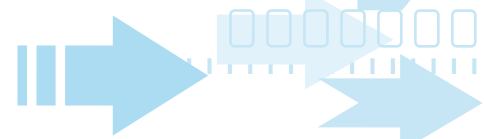
The next WorldSkills International competition will be held in London in October 2011. Applications for the 2009/2010



Automotive industry Tool Blacks were farewelled by His Excellency The Hon Sir Anand Satyanand, GNZM, QSO, Governor-General at Government House in Auckland recently. From left to right MITO Chairman Peter Hancock, Jemma Bond, Marcel Woods, His Excellency Sir Anand, Jesse Clinton and MITO Chief Executive Janet Lane.

WorldSkills Regional competitions will be open later in the year to apprentices nationwide. The age ruling for participation in WorldSkills International 2011 is that all competitors must be under 23 years of age at 31 December 2011.

For more details visit
www.worldskills.org.nz.



Travel bag a ticket to success

The Outdoor Fabric Products Association of New Zealand (OFPANZ) Apprentice of the Year award was presented recently by MITO Chairman Peter Hancock at a gala event in Wellington.

The coveted OFPANZ Apprentice of the Year award was won by Amelia Norton from Kolorful Kanvas Ltd in Christchurch.

Amelia's all-round ability and attitude in the workplace helped her secure the prestigious title, but her superior design and technical skills were clearly evident in her award-winning project entry – a nifty navy blue travel bag.

Contestants were required to design and make a bag of their own choice.

Like all best inventions, Amelia designed her bag after finding none available to meet her needs when travelling.

Amelia's entry stood out because of its high-quality finish and overall appearance, down to stitching the name of her bag – 'Embrace' – something very difficult to do, according to one of the judges.

Amelia first came to Kolorful Kanvas Ltd on school work experience two years ago. She picked up the work



Amelia Norton, OFPANZ Apprentice of the Year, with her winning entry at Kolorful Kanvas Ltd in Christchurch.

quickly and immediately impressed her employer with her 'hands-on' approach.

She is part of a small workplace of eight staff manufacturing goods from

PVC and canvas. She signed up with MITO to gain a National Certificate in Canvas Fabrication (Level 3) and will complete her apprenticeship at the end of this year.

Alfa Romeo brings 'MiTo' to New Zealand

They say it's a snappy combination of 'Milan' and 'Torina', but Alfa Romeo's new 'MiTo' car has so much in common with automotive apprenticeships, it's spooky!

Launched in New Zealand in July, this 'unique compact performance car' sets new standards in performance and technology. And not surprisingly, it's only available as a turbo charged model.

Packed with power and great value for money – just like a MITO apprenticeship!



CRA Apprentices of the Year

MITO was delighted to present two prestigious industry awards recently at the Collision Repair Association (CRA) annual conference held in Napier.

Auto artist

Jemma Bond is growing accustomed to being first – first female apprentice at Rowsells Collision Repair Centre Limited in Whangarei; gold medallist at the WorldSkills NZ National Finals last year; and now CRA Golden Gun Award winner – the top-performing Apprentice of the Year in Automotive Refinishing.

While Jemma is just happy to combine her two great passions – art and cars – she is extremely talented and capable of world-class refinishing work at only 21 years of age.

Next month she travels to the WorldSkills International competition in Calgary, Canada, where as a member of the Tool Blacks – New Zealand's top vocational skills champions – she will compete with the best in the world.

Before her career in the automotive



Jemma Bond, CRA Golden Gun Award winner, at Rowsells Collision Repair Centre Limited in Whangarei

industry, Jemma completed a visual arts course. She achieved her National Certificate in Automotive Refinishing (Level 4) in March 2008 with MITO, while working at Rowsells Collision Repair Centre Limited.

MITO Industry Training Advisor, Colin Kingi believes her success has done amazing things for the collision repair industry – raising the profile – and encouraging equal opportunity employment.

Top talent

Te Iwi Biddle is New Zealand's top performing apprentice in collision repair. He was presented with the CRA Golden Hammer Apprentice of the Year Award.

Te Iwi is an employee of Taupo business Forster Panelbeaters Limited. He came into the industry via the Gateway programme at Taupo-nui-a-Tia College.

He impressed his employer, Alan Collins, during the work experience component of the programme and returned as a permanent employee. Alan encouraged Te Iwi to study towards his national certificate



because he displayed such motivation and was very precise in everything he did.

Te Iwi completed his apprenticeship and is currently working towards MITO's advanced technical ATech® programme.

Te Iwi appreciates all the help and support he received along the way and would encourage school students to take the opportunities available to develop their talents, such as MITO's StartUp® programme.

Te Iwi Biddle, CRA Golden Hammer Award winner, at Forster Panelbeaters Limited in Taupo.

Regional Managers introduced



MITO Regional Managers from left to right Nick McGirr, Jodi Franklin and Mark Gebbie.

Three new Regional Managers have joined MITO.

They will each be responsible for a team of Industry Training Advisors throughout the country. They are:

- 🌀 **Jodi Franklin**
Auckland and Northland
- 🌀 **Mark Gebbie**
Central and Lower North Island
- 🌀 **Nick McGirr**
Wellington and South Island.

Car sales industry June summary

New car sales figures are showing an increase, according to the car sales statistics.

Although the figures for new car sales are down for this year, June figures show an increase in the number of new cars sold, compared to May 2009. June sales were up nearly 8% from May.

"The increase in new car sales is an encouraging sign that the NZ car market is through the worst," says Motor Industry Association CEO Perry Kerr.

- The number of motor vehicle dealers around NZ remains stable at around 2,500.
- The top new car of choice remains the same as last year – the Toyota Corolla is the country's best-selling model, ahead of the Holden

Commodore and the Suzuki Swift.

- Customs Department data for June shows that 4,828 vehicles were imported from Japan, a 21% drop from the previous month.
- The internet remains by far the preferred method when looking to buy a vehicle, followed by newspapers, then magazines.
- Trade Me is the top automotive site by unique browsers. It now has 84% of the on-line traffic market share, followed by Autotrader with 6.8% and Turners with 6%.

Car sales statistics for June 2009:

Public to dealer:	11,905
Public to public:	36,914
Dealer to public:	14,166
Dealer to dealer:	5,237
Overseas registration:	5,406
Total segment:	73,628

Data reproduced courtesy of Turners Auctions Limited and the Motor Industry Association.



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Upcoming Events

9 September

Hawera High School Careers Day

25-26 September

Wellington Innovation and Technology Expo

3 October

Niue Business & Careers Expo

Industry Training Graduations

5 October Westland District

6 October Grey District

9 October Wairapa

15 October Buller District

For more information visit our website www.mito.org.nz.