

# MITO News

September – October 2009

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## Tool Blacks proud of their Calgary performance

**The NZ Tool Blacks returned from the WorldSkills Calgary 2009 international competition confident they performed valiantly against the best in the world.**

The New Zealand team collected six Medals of Excellence from the 17 skills categories in which they competed during the four-day event. They were amongst the leaders of over 800 competitors from 50 countries who participated.

Representing the New Zealand automotive industry were:

- 🌀 Autobody Repair - Jesse Clinton from Christchurch
- 🌀 Automotive Refinishing - Jemma Bond from Whangarei
- 🌀 Automotive Technology - Marcel Woods from Kaikohe.

The Best of Nation award - the highest mark attained by a New Zealander - went to Electrical Installation competitor Ben de Groot.

Marcel Woods came tenth out of 28 in the world in his category. His performance was recognised with a Medal of Excellence.

"Awesome" was how he described the experience of competing at Calgary. "To be in that huge arena with thousands of people on opening night was an incredible feeling."

Marcel is keen to remain involved with WorldSkills NZ, perhaps getting involved in training the automotive



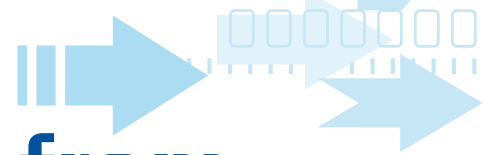
Tool Blacks performing the haka at the opening ceremony of WorldSkills Calgary 2009.

technology candidate for the next international competition.

"I've benefited so much, and I want to pass that on to others in this industry.

WorldSkills NZ Regional competitions are held biennially. National winners may have the opportunity to represent New Zealand at the next WorldSkills International competition in London in 2011.

Regional competition dates and registration details will soon be available on the WorldSkills NZ website:  
[www.worldskills.org.nz](http://www.worldskills.org.nz)



# Return on investment from apprentices - good news for employees

**While supporting WorldSkills NZ automotive competitors at Calgary, MITO also participated in a number of seminars, including an international dialogue on training investment hosted by the Canadian Apprenticeship Forum.**

Lucie Wenmakers, Group Manager - Corporate Affairs, presented the results of a recent MITO research project, *Return on Investment from a MITO Apprenticeship*.

The research looked at the value of automotive apprenticeships in New Zealand and what the costs and benefits are for apprentices, employers and for society as a whole.

The research results indicate that employers recover their investment in



Research finds automotive training contributes to safer roads and workplaces.

an apprentice in the second year of training. Given that apprentices tend to stay with their training employer for around five years, the results endorse that an apprenticeship

is a worthwhile investment for employers.

The benefits of apprenticeships to society include fewer accidents in the workplace due to health and safety training, and fewer accidents on the roads because of improved vehicle maintenance.

More young people involved in skills training also results in:

- reduced crime and unemployment
- improved health
- less dependence on social support systems.

Benefits for the apprentice are:

- increased status and career mobility
- better quality of life
- long term salary advantage.

## Learners and employees assist nationwide trial

**Eighty percent of the 1.1 million New Zealanders struggling with literacy are in the workforce.**

Strong literacy skills equip people to contribute fully in the workplace, develop higher level technical skills and cope with rapidly changing business demands.

While many of us think 'reading and writing' when we talk about literacy skills, the term 'literacy' also includes listening, speaking, numeracy, critical thinking and computer skills.

An electronic literacy assessment tool is due to be released by the Tertiary Education Commission (TEC) in 2010.

MITO recognises the importance of literacy skills and during September more than 1,300 MITO apprentices, ATech®, First Line Management and StartUp® learners participated in the final TEC assessment tool trial - testing resources to ensure their effectiveness for work-based learners.

Dedicated one-to-one literacy support is already available to any person enrolled with MITO. Talk to your Industry Training Advisor for further information.

### LITERACY PROFILES

MITO has developed a series of literacy profiles. These profiles can be used to:

- identify the tasks and skills that each job requires
- assist in preparing job descriptions
- help prepare interview questions when recruiting new staff
- identify skills that may need to be developed in your workforce.

For more information visit <http://www.mito.org.nz/employers/workplaceliteracy>.

# International appointment

MITO Chief Executive Janet Lane has been appointed Executive Director of the Outdoor Fabric Products Association of New Zealand (OFPANZ). OFPANZ has signed a management contract with the Industrial Fabrics Association International (IFAI). The announcement was made at the 2009 IFAI Expo held in San Diego recently.

IFAI's aim is to represent the global interests of those in the specialty fabrics industry. It currently comprises 2,100 member companies in 58 countries and is based in Minnesota, USA. OFPANZ became an IFAI country sector late last year.

In addition to two other country sectors – Canada and Japan – IFAI has 12 niche end-market divisions, including automotive, marine, awning, lightweight structures, safety, medical and protective products.

MITO will work closely with OFPANZ and IFAI to ensure IFAI NZ's strategic direction reflects their joint goals

and objectives and that the OFPANZ Executive is well supported to deliver on their annual business plan.



MITO Chief Executive Janet Lane signing the OFPANZ IFAI management contract with IFAI President and Chief Executive Officer Steve Warner.

## Advanced mobility and sustainability feature at Frankfurt

**The world's largest car show generated a huge buzz in Germany recently. Cars, motorcycles, caravans, parts, accessories and services drew thousands of visitors to the 63rd Frankfurt Motor Show.**

'Mobile at any stage' was a special feature of this year's show. Expectations that the 'less physically mobile' customer has of automotive mobility were addressed at Frankfurt for the first time. Companies showed vehicles that are designed especially for the disabled and elderly so that people can continue to be mobile at any stage of their lives.

Features such as swing and swivel seats, proximity warning systems and head-up displays are solutions the industry is working on. Comfortable and highly advanced adaptations maintain and promote mobility and increase the level of safety on the roads.



One of the world's most fuel-efficient cars, debuted at the 63rd Frankfurt Motor Show. Photo courtesy of Car & SUV.

'Green' vehicles were another key feature of the show, with many of the major manufacturers exhibiting hybrid and electric vehicles.

For more information on the 63rd Frankfurt Motor Show visit the website <http://www.iaa.de/index>.

# MITO Just the Job segments on TV2



Secondary school student Rene Riggell and Department Manager Denis Riley during filming of the *Just the Job* – Coachbuilding segment at Wade Group Limited in Hamilton.

***Just the Job* is a unique and informative TV series aimed at teenagers and young adults. It promotes career opportunities and gives secondary school students (and their parents) ideas and guidance on possible career choices.**

In each segment a student is filmed as they experience a 'real life' workplace for two days.

Executive producer Dave Mason says the series was designed to be educational and answer the perennial teenage question: 'What should I do once I finish school?'

MITO has funded segments in each of the four series of *Just the Job* produced to date. These have covered automotive and motorcycle engineering, collision repair through to motor trimming, coachbuilding and industrial textile fabrication.

Both students and employers find the experience of participating in a *Just the Job* film shoot valuable. Rene Riggell from Hamilton's Fairfield College appreciated being

introduced to work experience under such exciting circumstances.

Being filmed on the first day of his life 'at work' didn't faze Rene. It was "an amazing new experience," he says. Rene has ambitions to open his own custom car shop one day, after completing an automotive apprenticeship with MITO.

Series 4 of *Just the Job* screens on TV2 at 9:30 am on Saturdays. MITO segments can be viewed on:

- 🌀 **10 October 2009** - Motor Trimming, filmed at Charman Motor Trimmers & Upholsterers Limited in Napier
- 🌀 **14 November 2009** - Coachbuilding, filmed at Wade Group Limited in Hamilton
- 🌀 **28 November 2009** - Automotive Heavy Engineering - Agricultural Equipment, filmed at Claas Harvest Centre in Ashburton.

*Just the Job* DVDs are distributed to all secondary schools.

Three new episodes are planned for 2010.

**mito**  
Qualifying Your Future

## Contact us

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## Upcoming Events

**19-21 November**

International Careers Conference, Wellington

**5-6 December**

NZ 2009 Career Expo, Auckland

**Industry Training Graduations**

**5 November** Gisborne District

**5 November** Southland

**5 November** Stratford District

**6 November** Coastal Otago

**11 November** Manukau City

**11 November** Tauranga/  
Western Bay of Plenty

**12 November** South Waikato

**12 November** Horowhenua

**19 November** Papakura

**26 November** Eastern Bay of  
Plenty

**For more information visit our website [www.mito.org.nz](http://www.mito.org.nz).**