



Introducing Tool Black Team member

Name: Jesse Clinton
Skill: Autobody Repair (Panelbeating)
From: Christchurch

Jesse gained a Gold Medal at the WorldSkills NZ National Finals in September 2008. He meets the criteria and high performance standards required for WorldSkills, and has been selected to be part of the Tool Black team competing at the 2009 WorldSkills International Competition to be held in Calgary, Canada in September 2009.

Jesse has been in the trade for only one year, starting his apprenticeship early in 2008 after successfully completing a pre-trade course at Christchurch Polytech Institute of Technology (CPIT). His training is managed by CPIT where he attends weekly night classes and he is employed by the Christchurch firm of Elite Panel and Paint. Jesse has always been interested in cars and spends much of his free time working on cars at home.

Jesse was selected to compete at the WorldSkills National Finals because he entered and won the WorldSkills regional competition in Canterbury. He would encourage other panelbeating apprentices to enter the WorldSkills competitions because he believes it is a great opportunity to be involved in a worldwide event which brings young trades people together. "It is also great to be acknowledged for something I like doing," says Jesse.

Jesse knows that competing at the International competition in Calgary is a "once in a lifetime opportunity" and is prepared to put the effort into training so he can go into the competition confident that he will do his best. He is also looking forward to the opportunity to meet new friends from all around the world.

You can help Jesse get to WorldSkills in Calgary

Jesse has funding from the Motor Industry Training Organisation Inc (MITO), the Motor Trade Association and the Collision Repair Association. WorldSkills NZ and Jesse thank these organisations for their support of the Autobody Repair Competition.

Further contributions toward Jesse's total costs (\$13,900) would be appreciated. In doing so you are confirming your commitment to the development of the Autobody Repair industry in New Zealand. You will also give Jesse the opportunity to wear the Silver Fern, represent New Zealand, and gain valuable life experience through testing his skills against top young Autobody Repair competitors from around the world.

