



Introducing Tool Blacks Team Member

Name: Grant Letfus
Skill: Off-Set Printing
From Print NZ

Grant has been selected to attend the WorldSkills International Competition in Calgary, Canada in September 2008 as a judge in the Printing skill category. Grant is currently contracted to Print NZ working with apprentices and trainees, running block courses and is responsible for their C.M.I Programme (Competitive Manufacturing Initiative).

Grant was a founding partner in the Auckland Trade Bindery Fintech and has over 37 years Print Industry Experience. Grant originally trained in the business forms and carton packaging sector before setting up X-pert Print Finisher in 1975. The company grew over the following years with a couple of name changes to be Australasia's largest trade finisher Fintech.

Grant sold his interest in the company in 2005 and worked as a consultant within the Print Industry advising on training and recruitment. Grant is currently contracted to Print NZ working with apprentices and trainees, running block courses and is responsible for their C.M.I Programme (Competitive Manufacturing Initiative).

Grant has been involved with industry training for over 25 years, helping develop training programmes and writing competency tests. He has a 16 year history as a judge with the Print Industry's National print awards (Pride in Print) and has been Chief Judge for the last 5 years.

This will be Grant's second WorldSkills International competition. In addition, he and his wife, Heather, set up and run the New Zealand competition for Print NZ Training (Print ITO).

"We won a bronze on our first attempt in Japan last time. It was extremely pleasing to see that our level of training in NZ is equal to the best in the world. The competition enables us to benchmark our programmes and to be able to chat and discuss training initiatives with judges from around the world is great."

Grant's expenses are funded by B.J.Ball Papers, Trust for Skills and Print NZ Training, with thanks to Hostmann Steinberg, Rainbow Print and Heidelberg NZ for their assistance in training.