

SUMMER 2024

atnz bulletin



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Award winners announced in fiercely fought competition

In the 2023 Rookie of the Year competition for apprentices in the first eighteen months of their training, young gun apprentice Sam Waters from host company Hayes International emerged as the winner in another tightly fought contest. He edged out the Northern Region Rookie of the Year, Ben Mirkin of Waikato Stainless Steel and Southern Region Rookie of the Year, Guy Hutchinson of host company AHI Carrier New Zealand.

Emerging through a Gateway programme, Rookie of the Year Sam Waters spent six months at Hayes International proving he was ready before starting his apprenticeship as a sixteen-year-old. Inspired to pursue a career in engineering by a love of motorsport. His infectious enthusiasm has seen him develop quickly in twelve months, quickly improving his skills and even adopting a leadership position during the four-month absence of his foreman. If he keeps up the hard work, he will be qualified by the time he is twenty.

“Our Apprentice and Rookie of the Year competitions serve as a tribute to the exceptional skills and dedication of our apprentices,” emphasised Tim Wilson, CEO of ATNZ. “These competitions provide a platform to showcase their innovation and excellence, allowing them to shine. This event is not just a competition; it’s a celebration of their journey, our commitment to their growth, and an inspiration to those aspiring to have a fulfilling career in engineering.”

The ATNZ awards are highly prestigious and represent the pinnacle of achievement in our calendar. They are well recognised across the industry and generously supported by our partners and sponsors, NZ Safety Blackwoods for the Apprentice of the Year award and Ko-Ken Tools for the Rookie of the Year award, which are distributed in New Zealand by the Hobeca Trading Company. Our awards function in Auckland in December 2023 brought together a fantastic group of apprentices in whose hands the industry’s future looks bright.

Hanga-Aro-Rau Industry Manager, Matt Gough who was part of the judging panel was full of praise of the competition saying “It is a humbling experience for me to judge the ATNZ Apprentice and Rookie of the Year competitions. My role exposes me to the wider engineering sector, which often claims that there is a shortage of young talent entering the industry. However, this competition proves that a pool of great, enthusiastic talent is waiting to make their mark.”

We want to congratulate Samara, Sam and all the Regional Winners for their outstanding achievements. We would also like to recognise the tremendous effort all the competition participants put in. Each one of them is excelling in their apprenticeship and is a credit to ATNZ, their host companies and the future of engineering in New Zealand. It is particularly gratifying to see the awards providing a pathway to success, with Samara leveraging her 2022 Regional win in the Rookie of the Year category to secure the prestigious 2023 award as the best ATNZ apprentice in New Zealand.



Samara Robson-Beard won the 2023 ATNZ Apprentice of the Year award, beating a group of exceptional entries from across the country.

Samara, hosted by Active Engineering in Auckland, was previously named the 2022 Northern Region Rookie of the Year. Following a highly impressive 2023, she claimed the competition’s top spot narrowly edging out Isabella Morris, the Central Region Apprentice of the Year of host company HotChilly in Wellington, and Aidan Lipsham, the Southern Region Apprentice of the Year from host Gavin Lowe Energy in Christchurch.

Samara had an outstanding year excelling both academically and with her technical skills. Undeterred by an enforced eight weeks off due to an unrelated non work injury, Samara exceeded her credit achievement goals and took on challenging jobs including working on super yachts and drawbridges. Winning the award as the top ATNZ Apprentice of 2023 certainly makes her a great role model for any women considering entering the industry.



Online study groups target areas of need

ATNZ are providing Study Groups through the Canvas online learning platform. Experienced ATNZ Account Manager Dave Bennett hosts these sessions on Tuesdays and Thursdays three weeks of every month at 6.30 pm. Apprentices can check the calendar in the Study Group tile.

Study Groups offer a flexible and friendly environment for learners to get assistance with any modules or questions they need help with. Online tutoring provides individualised attention within a group setting.

Dave offers personalised feedback and guidance, addressing each learner's specific needs and challenges. Study Groups also enable those attending to develop friendships with other ATNZ apprentices across the country.

Dave has adopted a responsive and flexible approach to enhance productivity. Rather than planning set sessions in advance, Dave assists with any immediate roadblocks that are holding back a learner's progress. While we have regular attendees who attend most sessions, this flexibility reassures learners that help is there when they need it and that they can attend the sessions as required.

Dave is a tradesperson himself and has been guiding apprentices for many years. His mantra is that "There is no such thing as a dumb question", although he does expect the learner to have read the training material and had a go before seeking help.

We highly recommend that more apprentices join the study groups to enhance their progress. Click the Study Group tile on the Canvas platform to join the Study Group. This tile might be located at the bottom of the page. After clicking on the tile, learners can go through the Learner Guide, which explains how to participate in the meeting. Participating in the Study Group is an excellent way to ensure a good start for your 2024 credit achievements.

To ensure Dave has the chance to answer any tricky questions, learners are asked to email Dave before the session so he can be ready to guide people over the roadblock that is holding them up.

Dave can be reached at dave.bennett@atnz.org.nz.

ATNZ Gateway Programme introduces engineering to a new generation of learners

ATNZ is excited to announce the launch of the first Engineering Gateway programme for schools in 2024. The longstanding Gateway programme provides vocational learning opportunities to high school students across New Zealand, helping them gain valuable experience and decide on their future careers.

The Level 2 NZQA-certified engineering programme offers 12 credits across four units. These units cover knowledge of safety when lifting loads, fabrication machinery and processes, basic trade calculations and units of measure for mechanical engineering trades, and health and safety when welding and thermal cutting.

We are looking for businesses interested in hosting one or more Engineering Gateway students. The placement lasts ten weeks and involves 50-80 hours on an engineering premises. The units are completed online and assessed by ATNZ Account Managers, so businesses are not required to assess anything. There are no formal hands-on components to the units, and the time on business premises is purely to provide learners with valuable experience in workshops to whet their appetite for the future.

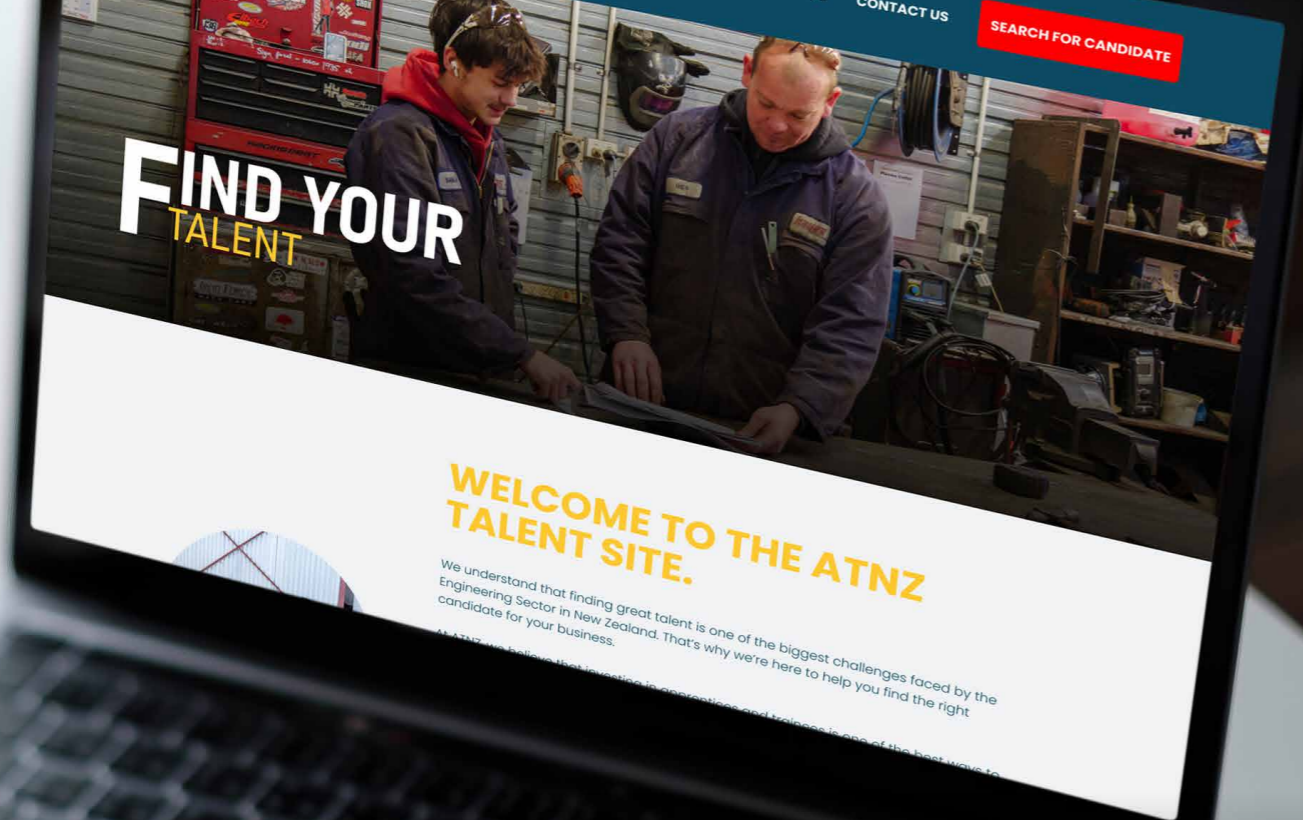
"By hosting Gateway students, businesses become catalysts for inspiration and mentors for a generation eager to explore the intricate world of engineering", explains ATNZ CEO Tim Wilson. "The ripple effect of this initiative extends beyond classrooms and will undoubtedly shape the landscape of our future workforce and drive innovation in the field. It's a dynamic collaboration, a synergy of education and industry, and we invite businesses to join us in this transformative experience."

Learners cannot undertake the programme without a work placement and are looking for the opportunity to get supervised exposure to engineering firms in their community. The programme provides a fantastic opportunity for learners and businesses alike. We expect the programme to provide a pipeline of apprentices in the future.

ATNZ would like to facilitate schools' ability to contact you for placements by listing interested businesses on our website. If you have a business that would be interested in promoting engineering in your local community and increasing the visibility of your operation to potential future employees, we would like to hear from you. Please chat with your Account Manager or email us at gateway@atnz.org.nz.



ATNZ Talent Site simplifies search for new talent



We are pleased to announce the launch of The ATNZ Talent Site, which will make it easier for our customers to find new apprentices and other staff to engage in ATNZ programmes.

ATNZ invests heavily in recruitment advertising across social media platforms and job noticeboards nationwide, and we chat with over sixty aspiring apprentices a week. The Talent Site provides companies with a tool to search for apprentices in their local area, and companies can also filter their search by the type of engineering candidates are interested in, as well as their experience level and availability.

The tool will allow companies to streamline their recruitment process, saving time and effort to find candidates they want to talk to. Furthermore, companies gain access to a diverse pool of potential apprentices with varying skill sets, backgrounds, and experiences. This diversity can bring fresh perspectives to the workplace and contribute to a more innovative and dynamic team. ATNZ has thoroughly screened all candidates that appear on the site, and everybody who appears on it has a passion for being hands-on, a proactive attitude, and a desire to work in the industry.

"This is an incredibly exciting time where ATNZ is responding to feedback and providing an additional avenue to get applicants into training in a challenging employment market," explains ATNZ National Manager Ben Julian. "This exciting approach gives control to a prospective host, enabling them to screen multiple candidates simultaneously and in step with training recommendations."

The site is very dynamic in that it is constantly updated with fresh candidates. For this reason, companies looking for new learners are encouraged to check it regularly. The best candidates are sure to be snapped up quickly, so make sure you don't miss out.

You can access the site at www.talent.atnz.org.nz. We will also email companies when strong candidates become available in their area. As always, please chat with your Account Manager if you have any specific recruitment requirements.

Level 3 Fluid Power Engineering Fundamentals Programme now available

Our Level 3 New Zealand Certificate in Fluid Power Engineering Fundamentals became available on February 1st. After extensive consultation with the industry, we identified the need to deliver this programme, and demand is already strong.

This qualification aims to provide the Fluid Power industry with people with fundamental knowledge, understanding, and practical skills to work as Fluid Power technicians. This qualification is designed for people already working in the Fluid Power or mechanical engineering industry or intending to complete a pre-trade qualification before entering the industry.

Graduates of this qualification have the skills and knowledge to work under supervision in entry level roles across various areas of specialisation.

"To have a tangible entry-level qualification is a game-changer, enabling us to attract and retain talent and grow our Industry", explained New Zealand Fluid Power Association Chair Tasj Paulson. "ATNZ have been pivotal in creating this new programme for our industry, which we are excited to be part of."

If you are interested in putting any of your team through this training, please chat with your ATNZ Account Manager or email info@atnz.org.nz.

Community programmes target fresh talent

Our Tertiary Partnerships Manager, Svend Hansen, spends significant time speaking with potential future engineers in the community. Our welding simulation equipment is an excellent tool that allows young learners, especially in schools, to gain hands-on experience in a fun, safe, and engaging way.

Towards the end of last year, we collaborated successfully with the Eastern Institute of Technology (EIT) and Education 2 Employment (E2E) located in Hawke's Bay. We developed a two day programme for fifty Year Ten students from three high schools, including Hastings Girls High School. The programme consisted of training on our welding simulators, a tour of EIT facilities and programmes, and welding a nutcracker for Christmas.

Fifteen-year-old students are the perfect age to be introduced to engineering, and the level of enthusiasm we received was impressive. On the second day, The

Ministry of Social Development brought through a group of twenty people, predominantly recent school leavers, who were similarly enthusiastic.

In Waiuku, just South of Auckland, we were invited to Tahuna Pa Marae with representatives from several ITOs. We were met with a similar level of enthusiasm from eighty rangatahi over the day and received seventeen applications from people we are in the process of interviewing.

We plan to continue this activity through 2024 and aim to attract more learners into the industry along with our flagship Gateway Engineering programme.

If there any groups within your community that you would like us to contact please chat with your ATNZ Account Manager or email info@atnz.org.nz.

Recent Apprentice Graduations

ATNZ want to congratulate our recent graduates on completing their apprenticeships.

Waikari Beckett	<i>McKenzie & Ridley</i>	New Zealand Certificate in Engineering Fabrication (Trade) - Heavy Fabrication Level 4 (NZQF: 2719)
Matthew Chiverrell	<i>Pan Pac Forest Products</i>	New Zealand Certificate in Mechanical Engineering (Trade) - Maintenance Level 4 (NZQF: 2714)
Johnathan Eade	<i>Transport & General Engineering</i>	New Zealand Certificate in Engineering Fabrication (Trade) - Heavy Fabrication Level 4 (NZQF: 2719)
Karl Evans	<i>Coologic Refrigeration</i>	New Zealand Certificate in Refrigeration and Air Conditioning (Trade) Level 4 (NZQF: 2366)
Jayden Gozdz	<i>Transport & General Engineering</i>	New Zealand Certificate in Engineering Fabrication (Trade) - Heavy Fabrication Level 4 (NZQF: 2719)
Liam Hoffman	<i>New Zealand Tube Mills</i>	New Zealand Certificate in Mechanical Engineering (Trade) - General Engineering Level 4 (NZQF: 2714)
Elizabeth Humberstone	<i>Industrial Site Services</i>	New Zealand Certificate in Engineering Fabrication (Trade) - Heavy Fabrication Level 4 (NZQF: 2719)
Michael Humphrey	<i>Eastbridge Services</i>	New Zealand Certificate in Mechanical Engineering (Trade) - General Engineering Level 4 (NZQF: 2714)
Georgia Johnson	<i>Gavin Lowe Air Conditioning</i>	New Zealand Certificate in Mechanical Building Services (Trade) Level 4 (NZQF: 2717)
Mohinesh Kumar	<i>Ace Air Conditioning</i>	New Zealand Certificate in Refrigeration and Air Conditioning (Trade) Level 4 (NZQF: 2366)
Joshua Lang	<i>Lyle Engineering</i>	New Zealand Certificate in Engineering Fabrication (Trade) - Heavy Fabrication Level 4 (NZQF: 2719)
Laurence Mills	<i>WPI International</i>	New Zealand Certificate in Mechanical Engineering (Trade) - Maintenance Level 4 (NZQF: 2714)
Damien Palmer-Todd	<i>Coologic Refrigeration</i>	New Zealand Certificate in Refrigeration and Air Conditioning (Trade) Level 4 (NZQF: 2366)
Jack Richards	<i>J P Marshall & Co</i>	New Zealand Certificate in Engineering Fabrication (Trade) - Heavy Fabrication Level 4 (NZQF: 2719)
Edwin Verma	<i>Ace Air Conditioning</i>	New Zealand Certificate in Refrigeration and Air Conditioning (Trade) Level 4 (NZQF: 2366)
Jayden Waghorn-Tipu	<i>DBC Building Services</i>	New Zealand Certificate in Mechanical Building Services (Trade) Level 4 (NZQF: 2717)
Brandon Wright	<i>Hayes International</i>	New Zealand Certificate in Engineering Fabrication (Trade) - Heavy Fabrication Level 4 (NZQF: 2719)
Samuel Wright	<i>Hendl & Murray Engineering</i>	New Zealand Certificate in Engineering Fabrication (Trade) - Light Fabrication Level 4 (NZQF: 2719)



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