



Introducing Tool Black Team member:

Name: Marcel Woods

Skill: Automotive Technology

From: Kaikohe - Northland

Marcel 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.

Marcel has been in the Automotive trade for just over four years. While working at Renton Motors in Kaikohe, Marcel did his apprenticeship through the Motor Industry Training Organisation (Inc) and attended NorthTec in Whangarei for both his Pre-trade course and block courses while he was training. Marcel is still working for Renton Motors and is now the Service Centre Manager.

Marcel entered and won the Northland Region WorldSkills competition and went on to compete at the National Finals. He strongly recommends others to take part in the regional competitions because "the experience opens so many doors, even if you don't win and you get to see how your skills stack up against other technicians around the country." Marcel found that the competitions increased his knowledge of mechanical skills and techniques and also time management, discipline and how to deal with pressure and stress. "You also learn some techniques that are applied and used in everyday situations that make the job easier," reckons Marcel.

Marcel is aiming for the top at the WorldSkills International competition and is prepared to put in the extra time and effort needed to get there. He is honoured to have been chosen for the Tool Black team and given the opportunity to represent New Zealand on the international stage. He is really looking forward to this "experience of a life time".

You can help Marcel get to WorldSkills in Calgary

Marcel has funding from the Motor Trade Association (MTA), Motor Industry Training Organisation Inc (MITO) and the Mazda Foundation. WorldSkills and Marcel would like to thank these organisations for their support of the Automotive Technology competition.

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

