



Introducing Tool Blacks Team Member

Name: Steve Brooks
Skill: Light Fabrication
From Palmerston North

Steve has been selected as an international judge in the Light Fabrication skill category for the 2009 WorldSkills Competition in Calgary, Canada. He has 28 years experience in the industry having started his apprenticeship in 1981 and qualified with a Trade Certificate in Sheetmetal Engineering from Steelfort Engineering in Palmerston North.

Steve worked as an engineering contractor, became self-employed and then took on the role of a tutor for PTE. He worked as a Training Specialist for 'Skills4Work', and is now Accounts Manager for Competenz. Steve is very passionate about ensuring the availability of quality industry training and works hard to keep the more traditional skills involved in the industry alive. He enjoys the interaction with people and seeing the growth of trainees through out their apprenticeship.

He is very excited about being involved as a judge at the WorldSkills International Competition and sees it as an opportunity to help raise the standards of training in New Zealand by meeting other judges and bringing back new ideas and techniques. He understands what a unique experience it will be for the competitors and will be putting every effort into the training of his team.

Steve has been involved with WorldSkills for the last 4 years and considers the WorldSkills Competitions to be a vital training tool which boosts the self esteem and confidence of the competitors and helps to raise skill standards within all the trade industries. He cites the ability to listen and a good attendance record as the essential building blocks from which an apprentice will go on to achieve success in his chosen field.

When he is not training our young people, Steve enjoys playing golf, fishing and cricket. He knows that he will probably not have much free time over the coming months as he focuses on all the extra training his competitor will need to give him every chance of a podium finish and a real boost for the New Zealand Sheetmetal Fabrication industry.

Steve Brooks' costs for getting to Calgary are being covered by his employer Competenz. WorldSkills and Steve would like to thank Competenz for their generous sponsorship of Steve.