



## TRU-GARD™ MAKING WORKPLACES SAFER – SPRING 2023

The second half of 2023 is upon us and is now disappearing as quickly as the first half began! Boy have we been busy keeping up with extraordinary levels of customer demand. Our clients are really showing a keen preference for personally manufactured, quality-controlled safety products that are fully certified, warranted and supplied fast! By choosing Tru-Gard™, that's exactly what they get and they can rest assured their staff and assets will be well protected while they concentrate on the business at hand. Check out our Spring update to find out what's been happening!

**Fun and games as we mark 30 years in business – celebrating the milestone in style!**

August heralded a special anniversary for Tru-Bilt Industries as we went all out to celebrate it with our staff, directors and founding members. From a nostalgic and often humorous look through the company history, to a mystery tour, birthday lunch, generous gifts, branded birthday cake and fun team bowling event, we well and truly marked the occasion.



## Read all about it! Check us out in Business South – September 2023

Find out more about our 30-year celebration in the prominent business magazine Business South. We even made the front cover!

Waterford Press is an independent New Zealand publisher of business and rural sector publications, including Business North, South and Central, Business Rural North and South, NZ Dairy and other industry-focused media.

Sincere thanks to Vanguard Group, Deloitte, Crombie Lockwood and Pace Electrical Services for supporting our feature article.

[Click here to read Business South September 2023 edition.](#)



## Key staff member reaches own personal milestone – thank you for your long service Ash!

Ashley Vogt-Kendrick has been working at Tru-Bilt for 15 years! A truly admirable length of service that is greatly appreciated by everyone in the business. On Friday 1st September we celebrated his anniversary with him over a lavish morning tea. Just a youngster when he started at the tender age of 25, Ash was soon recognised as a passionate quality controller and outstanding team leader. Here's what his colleagues say about him:

“The knowledge and experience that Ashley has gained over the years is priceless, he is passionate and extremely driven in all aspects of the workshop including the constant improvements to machinery and plant”.

“From design and innovation through to production, ‘Lean Thinking’ is never far from his mind. Ash is a Tru-Hero!”

“Ash works tirelessly to maintain important deadlines and keeps his team on track. He's awesome at time management and keeps jobs up to date.”



## Sneak preview of new Tru-Gard™ product – full-surround walkway protection coming soon!

Our R&D Department has been working super hard designing and testing a brand new, fully protective walkway system. We're just so excited about this new product, we can't wait any longer to tell you about it, so we are spoiling our own surprise!

Here's a sneak peek at the newly-designed mesh panel and barrier combo system that will revolutionise your workplace safety. Pedestrians are completely surrounded by a solid steel system that will protect them from all angles – even from the risk of falling objects overhead. Factory and warehouse foot traffic safety goes next-level with this all-encompassing protection, fully manufactured by us, tested and certified to industry standards and warranted for 10 years. Watch this space for the full product launch coming soon, when we will outline all the features and benefits of this exciting new Tru-Gard™ product. It's a real game-changer and we can't wait to start making workplaces even safer!



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## Neat as a pin and running smoothly – efficient logistics at our Sydney Warehouse

We are well stocked and things are running like clockwork at our Eastern Creek warehouse in New South Wales. Tru-Bilt Operations Manager Paul Taylor recently visited from New Zealand to provide systems support, product training, and stocktake assistance to those on the ground working hard to make Australian workplaces safer! “We’ve got a diligent team on the ground there doing an excellent job of shipping out orders and keeping market supply ticking over”. Paul also reported how impressed he was with the tidiness and efficiency of the store and the team’s eagerness to provide first-class customer service and prompt shipping. “We strive for proficiency and professionalism across our entire business and I left the Sydney warehouse with full confidence in the team and their systems. Well done everyone!”



## Have you met Louis McKay? Our impeccable powder-coating expert!

We are so lucky to have our very own in-house powder-coating genius, Louis McKay, who keeps the yellow steel churning out meticulously each and every day! Louis has been with us a year now and has proved himself very skilled with the powder-gun, always achieving the perfect level of coverage before cooking the products to perfection in the industrial oven. Louis had done his own personal research in the area of powder-coating before joining us, finding it the ideal career path to match his attention to detail, precision and passion for quality. It also helps to have the strength of an ox for lifting heavy steel sheets and pipes on and off the overhead conveyor chain.

When asked what’s enjoyable about working at Tru-Bilt, Louis says “it’s cool working with such a relaxed team of workmates that I get on really well with”. He also loves putting his skills to use and gaining first-hand experience in this niche industry. In his spare time Louis is a car enthusiast with a lot of mechanical knowledge, so he’s often found tinkering around on his own vehicle or being asked to fix cars for friends or family members. He also enjoys water activities such as scuba diving, free diving, snorkelling and spear fishing. He can even hold his breath under water for more than 2 and a half minutes – that’s amazing!



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## Condolences for a respected associate who will be sorely missed by the team at Tru-Bilt

The Tru-Bilt team wish to acknowledge the recent loss of respected industry colleague, ardent Tru-Gard™ champion and genuine 'good bloke', Mr Shane Oldfield. We are deeply saddened to hear of Shane's passing and our sincere condolences go out to his wife Nicole, his children Tahlia and Tyson, and his extended family and friends. It has been our absolute pleasure to work with Shane who was a passionate backer of the Tru-Gard™ brand, representing us in the Australian market. He promoted and installed our safety products with dedication and enthusiasm in and around the Sydney area. We were very lucky to have known Shane, a man whom we would describe as 'salt of the earth'.

May you rest in peace Shane.



## A progress update on Christchurch Fresh Distribution Centre – the project continues!

As reported in our Autumn and Winter Newsletters earlier this year, we have been working hard on traffic safety supply for this major Christchurch project – and it's coming along nicely!

Watts & Hughs Construction continues to make excellent progress on the site of the new Christchurch Fresh Distribution Centre in Canterbury. Most of the external build is now completed and they are currently working hard pouring the internal slabs. This means our part of the job is getting much closer! Tru-Gard™ is the contracted traffic safety provider for this centre, and our safety barrier, bollards, hand rail, personnel gates and door frame protection will be installed immediately after connection of the main utility services, such as water and electricity, as well as line marking and fire safety services. All going to plan, we are looking forward to getting the majority of Tru-Gard™ safety systems installed before Christmas, so stand by for further reports and progress photos!

The 11,000 sqm development is a game changer for Countdown's South Island distribution of fresh produce. Previously most of the produce distribution came south from the North Island, meaning extra transport and time. This southern hub will optimise the supply chain and ensure fast and fresh supply to local supermarkets.

