

# Tanya Bezzant

## Glass Container Manufacturing Apprenticeship Graduate Quality Engineer, O-I New Zealand

"I've worked for most of my life in the engineering industry, on Auckland's North Shore. Ten years ago, when I was pregnant with my son, I moved out to Pukekohe to be closer to my partner. After I had Ross I found it very difficult trying to get myself into the engineering scene, in Pukekohe or the surrounding areas, as I didn't have any qualifications to back up my experience. To get myself on track I undertook an 18 week pre-apprenticeship course in Engineering Technology, thru MIT. Before completion of the course I was offered a position at ACI Glass [now O-I NZ] as a Glass Technician apprentice. I am now a Qualified Glass Technician and have spent the last 6 years in the Customer Technical Services department as a Quality Engineer.

"It has been an enlightening journey, and I've learned lots about myself along the way. I've proved to myself (and my kids) that I am capable of studying and working, I've learnt new skills while being able to use the skills I already have, and I've been able to do all this while still learning about the glass container industry, which I find fascinating.

"I'd say to anyone thinking about undertaking study that, 'You won't know until you try', and the personal growth while doing it is invaluable. I personally feel that if I hadn't taken the pre apprenticeship course, which started this ball rolling, I would've been in a go-nowhere-fast job just for the sake of the money, to survive. With what I have gained from the apprenticeship I now have dreams I want to follow, and I will!" ■



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**Tanya Bezzant**, Quality Engineer, O-I New Zealand



# Garth Ludick

## Plastics Processing Technology Apprenticeship Graduate, 2010, Alto Packaging Ltd (Auckland)

Garth decided to undertake an apprenticeship because as a new immigrant to New Zealand he needed to start earning money to help his family. He undertook the injection stretch blow-moulding strand as this is the process he uses at work.

Garth found the engineering components of the apprenticeship particularly interesting and found the courses in the later stages of his apprenticeship especially helpful because other trainees in his group generated questions that really added to his learning.

Garth is looking forward to further study in the engineering field and to being able to travel and use his qualification anywhere in the world.

"Having good support from my company really helped me successfully complete my training," says Garth. ■

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**Garth Ludick**,  
Alto Packaging Ltd (Auckland)