



Information Item	Knowledge isn't power; it's safety
Sponsor	CEO
Date	October 2019

Hard working, knowledgeable, experienced, and striving to better himself is how Allan Collins describes his professional ethics.

Seven national certificates and four Crane Association of NZ (CANZ) awards give weight to that statement.

And passing those habits on is also his preferred method of improving the crane industry – it's how he got his then inexperienced foot in the industry door.

His grandfather, John William Collins, had his own operation from 1952 until 1980 when his father, Donald Collins, bought the business.

Allan and his brother joined the business in 1991 and 1984 respectively, making the family "one of the longest servicing families in the country's crane industry".

"My experience was freely given to me throughout my career, from all aspects of the industry, so I've found that it's only fair to give mine freely to others – pay it forward. It works out for a better industry in all aspects," Allan says.

However, it wasn't until an accident in 2009 – which severed a couple of his fingers – led him down the training and assessment path.

"I asked Ian Grooby (CANZ Chief Executive at the time) three days after the accident for a training role and he said: 'consider it done'. And that's how it started."

There are a number of things Allan tells his clients when hired to provide training.

"First thing is safety, that's a priority. They must always be aware of what they're doing, and when. Second thing is being a team player; if you're not, then don't bother.

"And thirdly, their willingness to be there and learn. If you're only making up numbers, then you're not showing me that you're dedicated to it."

Allan isn't afraid to speak his mind, especially regarding training as it is part and parcel of the industry.

He's not one to walk away once the job is done either: "if you're a part of industry, then I'm here for you – this is what we're all striving towards; bettering the industry."

But he also walks the talk.

He's still working towards completing another certificate and will continue to stay abreast of the training pathways, as well as the legislative and regulatory changes.

"Refreshers are very very important because they are more focussed on workplace procedures and not so much around regulatory procedures. It's more so about how they operate the machinery which is more valuable in today's environment," he says.

"Bringing people up to speed on the legislative changes is one thing, but let's see how well you go on the tools first.

"Without the right knowledge and training to supplement that certificate, they can quite easily hurt themselves and others. The assessment needs to grasp the core working of what a person needs to do.

"Because I'm here for industry, no two ways about it. I strive to give people knowledge, knowledge is safety."

Allan Collins

Digital Training and Assessment Ltd

Newsletter Disclaimer:

The information in any CANZ newsletter is for general use only. The information has been provided by CANZ and by third parties including CANZ members. While CANZ has reasonably endeavoured to provide accurate information, neither CANZ nor the third parties provide any guarantees regarding the correctness, currency, completeness or suitability of the information for any particular purpose. It should not be relied on in place of appropriate specific advice or verification. Opinions provided by third parties on any matter do not necessarily represent the opinion or policy of CANZ.

The newsletter also contains promotional information about third parties and their products and services, including references to CANZ sponsors, and links to third party websites. CANZ does not endorse third party products or services, and any dealings with third parties, including accessing their websites, will be at the user's sole risk.