



New Zealand tour finds opportunities aplenty

November 2020

Visiting Crane Association of New Zealand members throughout the country has reinforced the Association's purpose to lead governmental changes within the industry.

So says Sarah Toase, Executive Officer, following her tour of crane operators and business owners last month.

Understanding the day-to-day concerns of members, amongst a wide range of areas that need addressing, is part of the Association's strategic planning process to set a 'direction of travel' for the next four years.

One key theme that has come up time and time again is training and crane operator qualifications.

It is timely too, as the Reform of Vocational Education (RoVE) moves one step closer with the establishment of the six Workforce Development Councils nearing completion.

Despite the Association's initial opposition to RoVE, CANZ is working to understand the new structure and to ensure the voice of the industry is heard, while ensuring its members' interests are represented.

"With the changes to RoVE on the horizon we're able to decide how we, the industry, want the outcome to look," Sarah says.

"It has been great to hear the wish list of industry and be able to link that to a tangible opportunity to make those wishes a reality.

"I would like to see us creating a tangible pathway into the crane industry. It needs to be presented to young people as a viable option for an exciting and varied career.

"The amount of time and knowledge that members have shared with me was incredible. It was obvious that people are passionate about the industry and proud of their operation and equipment – it was inspiring."

There are members who are already considering their submissions for the Association's annual awards, which are always a popular feature of the conference, Sarah adds.

Categories such as Lift of the Year and Project of the Year are always hotly contested.

"I've seen some images of the work that's been done, and the entries being planned are very exciting."

Sarah would like to extend a big thanks to Auckland Cranes, Hi Lift Cranes, Liebherr, Allcrane Sales and Services, NZ Crane Hire, SGS, Smith Crane & Construction, and Leighs Construction – all of whom hosted her on the recent visits to Auckland and Christchurch.

Next on the agenda is Tauranga (November 26-27), with plans in the works to visit Hamilton and cities in the lower North Island.

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