

TPP tutor becomes Certified Welding Inspector

Tai Poutini Polytechnic (TPP) Engineering Tutor Greg White says that becoming a Certified Welding Inspector (CWI) will help create better connections with the West Coast industry and benefit local engineering students.

Mr White completed the international certification in 2016, after a year of intense study. He believes he is the only person on the West Coast to hold the certification and says it will help local industry.

“As well as being able to bring a higher level of training to our students, I’ll also be able to work with local companies to assess and certify workshop welding procedures, and conduct welder testing. In the past they’ve had to bring someone over to the Coast to do it, at a significant extra cost.

“I’ll be working more closely with local industry and bringing them into the workshop regularly. That means our students will get more exposure to people who are leading the local business industry which is a great thing for the training programme.”

Mr White says the CWI study programme involved six weeks’ training in Auckland, followed by six months of distance learning and a nine-hour exam. “I completed my exams at university, but I’ve never been through anything like this. I’ve been a welder for a long time and I’m always looking to increase my skills. Learning is a lifelong process and I think it is good for our students to see that even the teacher can still learn more,” he says.

TPP’s West Coast General Manager Dr Teresa Schwellnus says Mr White’s certification is a great way for the institute to increase its ties with the community. “As well as the immediate benefits for students and the community, this also provides a great platform for plans to expand our programmes to offer higher-level qualifications, specialised industry training and apprenticeship training,” she says.

“TPP is focused on delivering tertiary education on the West Coast that is effective, sustainable and of a high quality. We aim to deliver training that meets the needs of both our students and the local industry. Greg has put in huge extra effort over the past year to become certified and improve the education opportunities available to local students, as well as building on our great connections with local business.”

As well as the pre-apprenticeship programme in Engineering (Fitting and Turning) offered at TPP’s Westport campus, there are part-time evening courses for adults looking to up-skill as well as after-school programmes for high school students who want to learn more about the industry.

Give Greg White a call on 0800 800 411 to talk about options and find out more.

For more information contact:

Mequa Hourston, Sales and Marketing Manager

DDI: 027 237 5844 | mequah@tpp.ac.nz

www.tpp.ac.nz