

## Jimmy Saves the Day!

### CTI Overcomes The Christchurch Earthquake

In light of damage suffered by other businesses in the region, CTI came through relatively unscathed. But for the quick thinking of a dedicated furnace-man who, despite having major damage to his own home, came in ready to put in a full day's work.

The 7.1 magnitude earthquake struck Christchurch at 4.35am on 4 September. With a Saturday morning shift due to start at 6am, Jimmy Bassett arrived at Tanya Street to ready the furnaces ahead of the main workforce.

Greeting Jimmy was a scene that could have been potentially disastrous for CTI. 650°C molten aluminium had sloshed up and over the sides of the holding furnaces, solidifying where it landed on concrete floors, burning paint and hydraulic oil as it cooled. However, where the aluminium landed had found electric cables, and a slow radiant burn was occurring. The fire-resistant protective coverings on the electrical cables were smoldering and eventually blew all the fuses. By the time Jimmy arrived only ninety minutes after the earthquake, and with major aftershocks still being felt, the cables were burnt through, the furnace alarms were ringing and the air was full of smoke.

With braveness of heart and a lack of light, Jimmy, a fire warden of many years' standing in diecasting, opened the doors to clear the air then proceeded to grab a fire extinguisher, extinguished the fire and made the furnaces secure from further shakes, before the arrival of other staff members.

Following a review of the hazard assessment for

earthquakes, electrical cables to the furnaces are now run along concrete gutters with steel covers, along with the use of flame retardant tubing.

Operations Manager for the Tanya Street plant, Dean Armiger, praised the quick thinking and dedication of his staff, saying, "Jimmy, Bruce Stone and John Hoffmann showed amazing dedication to the company, by leaving loved ones and coming in to work so soon after disaster had occurred".

Jimmy was presented with an "Earthquake Super Hero" award in the following staff meeting in October.



Inside this issue:

<i>Cover Story:</i>	1
<i>Surviving September</i>	
<i>New Machinery:</i>	1
<i>CNC Hydraulic</i>	
<i>LEAN</i>	2
<i>Manufacturing Update</i>	
<i>Staff Profile:</i>	2
<i>David Hawes — Managing Director</i>	
<i>Christmas Closing</i>	2
<i>Contact Details</i>	2

## New CNC Guillotine Increases Capability

Investing in the very latest cutting edge technology, a Cammac QC12Y hydraulic guillotine, has greatly increased the capabilities of the CNC department at CTI.

With a fast blade set up and simple to use controller combination makes for very low, cost-effective set up times, with rapid turnaround between jobs.

Able to cut mild steel of up to 6mm thickness and in sheets of 3.2m in length, and with tolerances down to 0.1mm, the introduction of the guillotine has greatly improved production and reduced issues of quality.

Installation of the new guillotine has meant that CTI are also able to process aluminium, brass, copper, stainless steel and polycarbonate sheet.



CTI — Market Leaders In Design, Manufacture, Finishing & Assembly

- Powdercoating
- CNC Machining
- Aluminium Diecasting
- CNC Laser Technology
- Turn-key Product Engineers
- Precision Sheetmetal Fabricators
- Assembly



46 Disraeli Street,  
Addington

18 Tanya Street,  
Bromley

Phone: 366 9064  
Fax: 365 7975

E-mail: [reception@cti.co.nz](mailto:reception@cti.co.nz)  
[www.cti.co.nz](http://www.cti.co.nz)

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## LEAN Manufacturing Update

At the beginning of the year, CTI embarked on a LEAN manufacturing project. During the year, twelve staff have been undergoing training (at 3 different levels) and applying this training to projects to improve the way we manufacture.

Our Disraeli Street site is now quite different with a lot of equipment removed and/or shifted to improve process flows. Throughout the whole business there are now visual display boards that indicate the work status and give priority to work flowing through. While the initial stages have focused on creating a 5S culture, improved process flows and utilizing visual display boards, we are now working on new projects which include quick changeovers.

Internally, we have seen significant improvements in the way we process our work and improved timing through the factory. As customers you should be seeing the results in improved delivery performance.

Associated with our manufacturing processes, we have also looked at the administration processes and significantly changed these to reduce the timing between order receipt and release of work to the factory.

We welcome you to come and visit our site(s), to better understand what we have done and offer advice on ways we can further improve to help with your business.



Insert Bay — before

Insert Bay — after

## Staff Profile — David Hawes (Managing Director)

If you were an animal what kind of animal would it be?

Crayfish — Not only do they taste great, they have lots of other great traits.

What is your favourite colour?

Blue.

What would I find in your refrigerator right now?

Heaps of good things. I was out last night and got the groceries. I have visitors arriving and staying over the weekend.

When was the last film you went to see and what was it?

Can't remember — stopped going to the movies as I kept falling asleep and then couldn't remember the movie. Can't understand why people can't watch a movie without needing to eat those huge containers of pop corn.

What is your favourite song?

I haven't really got one favourite. I really enjoy all rock music. The last two concerts I've been to are The Who and Green Day. Most favourite album is "Tommy" by The Who. I still have a copy of this vinyl double LP wrapped in its original plastic.

If you could be (more of) a superhero, what superpowers would you have?

Speed — would help me move around the squash court faster and give some of the up and coming youngsters a good run for their money.

Why are manhole covers round?

Because men are round (if you go down feet or head first).

What CTI product is in your home?

Wedding Coasters

## Christmas Closing

CTI will be close from 12pm on Thursday the 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2010 to the morning of Wednesday the 5<sup>th</sup> of January 2011.

Last international shipments will be on the 17<sup>th</sup> and last local shipments will be on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of December.

If you have any requirements during our closure, please contact us so we can make the necessary arrangements.

Have a safe and happy Christmas and New Year.