



For more info on Supreme Sheet Metals, check out supremesheetmetals.co.nz

Supreme Sheetmetals is a close-knit, family organisation which consists of 30 people, with hundreds of years combined experience.

Supreme Sheetmetals has been working in the Waikato for over 45 years offering a range of services such as Laser, Fabrication, Production and Machinery. They work on all kinds of projects and have built up excellent relationships within the community.

TELL US ABOUT YOUR ROLES

Yzer: As a Draughtsman, I draw up the "blueprint" of whatever the customer wants to make. We get a request, it could be for anything really, then I draw up how that looks.

A **CAD Draughtsman** uses Computer-Aided Design (CAD) software to create technical drawings and plans for various industries, like engineering and manufacturing. The role involves translating conceptual designs into detailed and accurate digital representations that guide the construction or production process.

Todd: As a Laser Programmer I take the parts, or the "blueprint" that Yzer draws up and process them to get cut on the laser.

A **CNC Laser Programmer** designs and code the instructions that guide Computer Numerical Control (CNC) laser cutting machines. They create precise machining paths and parameters, enabling the CNC laser to accurately cut, engrave, or etch materials according to specified designs and patterns.

To find out more about this sector, profiles of young people like you in the industry, and career tools and tips...

scan here



YZER REBOLLEDO
DRAUGHTSMAN

TODD HIGGS
LASER PROGRAMMER

The FutureForce® Crew sat down with Yzer and Todd to chat about their roles...

WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT WORKING AT SUPREME SHEET METALS?

Y: The people. They're all nice, they're all fun, good to chat with. A workplace wouldn't be good with strict people or people who just don't like fun.

T: Same. Boss is nice to everyone. And we have social catch ups where we'll have a barbeque or something.

HOW DID YOU GET STARTED?

Y: I wanted to be an engineer when I left school, so I tried to follow that path. I just liked being able to know how stuff works in the world.

T: I didn't really know what to do when I was in school. I started off working in the actual laser shop here before moving into the office and getting into the programming side.

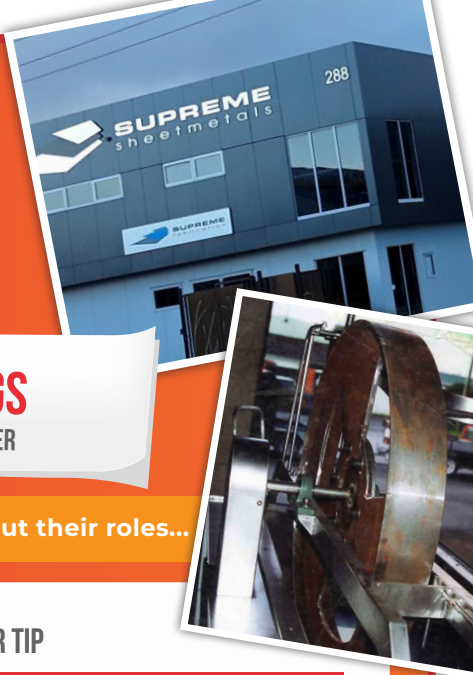
TOP CAREER TIP

"WORK A JOB THAT YOU LIKE AND YOU'LL NEVER WORK A DAY IN YOUR LIFE." – TODD HIGGS

WHAT HAVE YOU LEARNT ON THE JOB?

Y: There's the technical side of things like how to use all the different software and computer programmes... then there's just like the basic stuff, how to wake up at 6am in the morning, staying for 8 hours. First day it was a challenge but you get into the habit of it after a while.

T: Probably time management, you've got to be on top of everything and you have to show up to work even if you don't want to. So have some resilience and motivation is important.



YZER REBOLLEDO
DRAUGHTSMAN

TODD HIGGS
LASER PROGRAMMER



WHAT SORT OF PERSON WOULD BE GOOD AT THIS TYPE OF WORK?

Y: It helps if you like engineering! I work with numbers a lot so having a knowledge of maths, or at least some knowledge of the basics, will definitely help. Or if you've got some knowledge of how to use the software – or have an interest in learning how to.

T: Communication will be good because we talk to customers quite often. Patience -sometimes people make mistakes, something is not quite right, and we figure it out and move on.

WHAT IS YOUR ADVICE FOR KEEPING A GOOD WORK-LIFE BALANCE?

T: Gym and sleep – especially if you're sitting down all day you're going to have to do something physical after work.

Y: Getting out, getting sun especially being indoors all day for 8 hours. Try not to get too bored or distracted easily at work. Learn how to entertain yourself during work have the initiative to find things to do because if you don't, you'll start to hate it.

USEFUL SECONDARY SCHOOL EDUCATION

- » Maths
- » Engineering
- » Design
- » I.T. or Digital
- » Graphic Design

WHAT IS YOUR ADVICE FOR SOMEONE STARTING OUT IN THE WORKFORCE?

Y: Prepare for the long hours. Going to bed early, finding a good sleep schedule. Not just staying up all night watching Tik Toks, playing games and stuff like would do if you were in high school.

I'd say it's very important to eat breakfast – don't be that guy who feeds off energy drinks through the whole day – it's so not healthy!

T: Stick with it. Don't take heaps of sick days, especially when you're not really sick. It shows your boss you don't give up easy and you're a good person to move up in the company.

