

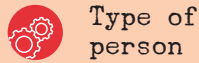


For more info on RML, check out www.rmlnz.com

RML are industry leaders in production automation and component manufacturing, servicing customers in New Zealand, Australia, India, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

In short, they design and build customised production machinery for businesses, using robotics, control systems and high-quality components.

RML does everything in-house, meaning they can deliver equipment that doesn't exist anywhere else!



- Good Attitude
- Keen to learn
- Mechanical mindset
- Have an interest in the industry
- Related hobbies

Relevant School Subjects

- Metal Technology
- Design & Visual Communication
- Maths (Calculus)
- English

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

scan here



GENE KELLER
MANUFACTURING APPRENTICE



The FutureForce® Crew sat down with Gene to chat about his role...

TOP CAREER TIP

"IF YOU JUST KEEP GOING, AND KEEP PRACTISING, EVENTUALLY IT BECOMES SOMETHING GREAT!"

TELL US ABOUT YOUR ROLE?

I am a Machining Apprentice and, as apprentices, we move throughout the workshop. Each year we focus on one area and then we move to another. First year I was deburring and cutting, and in my second year I was in components. At the moment I'm in turning, so I use lathes pretty much everyday.

WHAT GOT YOU INTERESTED IN THIS CAREER PATH?

I've always been interested in creativity. All through my younger life I'd always think; "What if my Dad created this?" or "What if I could build this?". It led me into more creative subjects at school, and thinking I wanted to take a path where I could help build stuff.

WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT YOUR JOB?

I love the variety there is! There is a lot of variety in the parts we manufacture, stuff we assemble and the work itself. I've gone out on site a couple times and that is very fun.

HOW DID YOU GET THIS JOB?

It mostly came from my father, as he had some links with RML. Some of our machines are based at Fonterra where he works, so he recommended the job. I was like "I'll give it a go!" and had an interview. I had a bit of experience from a part time job where I had to sweep floors, it was a bit of work experience. I got hired, and things have been going up-and-up since then. Back then I wasn't sure what I wanted to do ,however I did know that I wanted to go on this career path, so I'm definitely happy with how it's going.

GENE KELLER
MANUFACTURING APPRENTICE



TIPS & ADVICE

WHAT HAVE YOU LEARNT ON THE JOB?

I've learnt a lot of stuff on the job. Each year I have jumped from one position to another so in each area I've learnt a lot, from setting up testing rigs to picking the correct material to cut or turn. So yeah – I've learned a lot of skills.

WHAT CHALLENGES HAVE YOU FACED AND HOW DID YOU OVERCOME THEM?

Balancing life with the apprenticeship. You get a lot of assessments and it's still NCEA. It's not difficult it's just balancing it with your own personal time. That's probably the hardest challenge. It's well worth overcoming!

WHERE WOULD YOU LIKE TO GO WITH YOUR CAREER?

At the moment I'm moving around in different areas. I haven't gone to the Milling Bay so I wouldn't know what's that really like. Once I get through my apprenticeship and I've gone to all the different areas, I get the choice of where abouts in the workshop I want to go. Right now, I really enjoy the component side of things – that's a lot of assembly and testing. That's my personal liking. I see myself staying at RML for quite some time, it's a fun job it keeps me on my toes!



WHAT SORT OF PERSON DO YOU NEED TO BE FOR THIS WORK?

Someone who is determined and enthusiastic. The team we have – we are very fortunate. We have amazing people in this team which I'm very impressed with. Everyone communicates with each other, and it's just a really nice place to work in – good environment.

WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO SOMEONE LOOKING AT THIS TYPE OF WORK?

Make sure you know your maths, know your metal and that you're actually keen to do the job. If you enjoy doing it and want to give it a go, definitely do it!

