



For more info on ISS, check out iss.co.nz

ISS specialises in height access services, including scaffolding, rigging, industrial rope access, wind turbine erection and maintenance, engineering and mechanical, confined space work, and more.

When former Fraser High student Siope left school a year or so ago, he had no bank account, no car, no job and no idea what he wanted to do.

Now, with support from Kaute Pasifika and Hamilton-based Industrial Site Services, he has all of those things, paid cash for his first car and has even landed himself a lucrative Scaffolding Apprenticeship division for ongoing maintenance and small works.



"IT'S A REAL THRILL TO BE MAKING YOUR OWN WAY IN LIFE. IT WAS HARD WORK TO START WITH — IT'S STILL HARD WORK — BUT ONE OF THE GREATEST THINGS ABOUT WORKING HARD AND OVERCOMING CHALLENGES IS IT MAKES YOU FEEL REALLY GOOD ABOUT YOURSELF. IT GIVES YOU A STRONG MINDSET AND DISCIPLINE AND THAT'S WHAT IT'S GIVEN ME."

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

scan here



SIOPE KALONIHEA APPRENTICE SCAFFOLDER

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

→ WHAT DO YOU ENJOY ABOUT THIS JOB?

I'm really enjoying the big jobs because it keeps us busy and is more fun. We also get to travel around a bit, which is good because I'm normally the sort of person who stays at home. We also get paid well, and that increases quite quickly. Most of all, I like it that I have friends here and we all support each other.

→ WHAT DOES A DAY ON THE JOB LOOK LIKE FOR YOU?

Depending on the job, everyone arrives at the yard at about 7am and gets their stuff prepared to go out to a job. If it's a bigger job we might have been preparing in the days before, and we might start earlier if we need to travel.

Then we get into the work trucks and travel to the job.

Our Leading Hand will assign us different jobs to do for the day. We could be on an industrial site or a residential site, but I've mostly worked on factories.



TOP CAREER TIP

"I'M REALLY LOOKING FORWARD TO WELCOMING THE NEW CADETS SO I CAN ENCOURAGE THEM. I KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE WHEN YOU'RE FIRST STARTING OUT SO I WILL BE ABLE TO SHARE WITH THEM AND HELP THEM."

→ HOW DID YOU FIRST GET INTO WORK?

After school I didn't really have a job lined up, so I did a carpentry apprenticeship at Wintec for a year. Then I connected with Kaute Pasifika, who help students look for jobs and get their driver's license, that sort of thing. At that point, I didn't have my own bank account or anything so they helped me get all set up.

They also helped find me the job at ISS, where I started out on a three-month Cadetship. Throughout those three months you learn all the basics of scaffolding, which I hadn't really heard about before. I'd seen it around but I didn't know much about it until I got this job.





SIOPE KALONIHEA
APPRENTICE SCAFFOLDER

→ WHAT ARE SOME CHALLENGES YOU FACE AT WORK?

The job is pretty physical so you can be tired at the end of the day. It's made me a lot fitter for my sport. I play rugby league for the Hornets. So it helps keep me fit! I also still go to the gym after work.

I'm actually terrified of heights, but overcoming that is a good experience. The more you do it the more comfortable you get. The feeling of the thrill makes it fun.

→ WHAT IS THE ISS KAUPAPA?

- Trust – deliver on your word
- Team – stronger, safer, together
- Growth – people, clients, company
- Responsibility – we, us, together
- Innovation – smarter problem solvers
- Hard work – doing the mahi
- Customers – nothing without them
- Ethics – genuine, honest, aroha

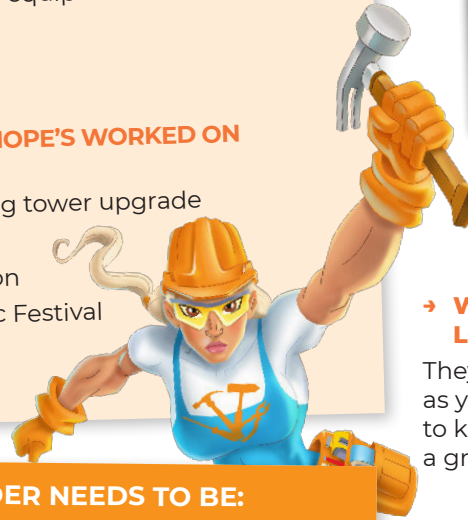
WHAT DOES A SCAFFOLDER DO EXACTLY?

SCAFFOLDERS DO THINGS LIKE:

- Check for hazards on site
- Calculate loads
- Design a scaffold for the site
- Load and unload scaffolding from trucks
- Check and maintain equipment
- Erect scaffolding
- Make repairs

SOME RECENT JOBS SIOPE'S WORKED ON INCLUDE:

- Seddon Park lighting tower upgrade
- FMG Stadium
- Huntly Power Station
- Sound Splash Music Festival
- Taupo by-pass



A GOOD SCAFFOLDER NEEDS TO BE:

- Safety conscious
- A good listener who can follow instructions
- Fit and agile
- Keen to work hard
- Comfortable working at heights
- Responsible
- A good problem solver
- Accurate, with an eye for detail
- A good communicator, with an eye for detail
- Well organised



TIPS & ADVICE

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

They just need to be keen to work really. From there, as long as you keep turning up, you will learn everything you need to know! It's a great way to get fit and to set yourself up for a great career.

→ WHAT KIND OF PERSON DO YOU NEED TO BE FOR THIS KIND OF MAHI?

You've got to be able to get up in the morning, and that's really hard for me, but you do get used to it. You've got to be able to show you're keen to work. Just turning up is the biggest thing. This job is pretty hard at the start, and you really have to look after yourself physically.

