

Kyle is a director, of Donovan Group NZ Ltd. Kyle Donovan joined Donovan Group 10 years ago, following seven years in the banking and finance sector. Driving business growth has been a focus for Kyle, which has involved working with co-director and brother, Brett, to develop engineering and software innovations into workable, commercial entities. This has included patenting the Bracketless Portal

KYLE DONOVAN

System, developing the company's pre-engineering building system and software, and more recently, managing a joint venture with New Zealand Steel for the creation of the VERTEBEAM™ technology. Kyle holds a degree in business management from the University of Waikato, and has a particular interest in finance, business strategy and manufacturing.



WARWICK DOWNING

Chief executive officer of TiDA, Warwick Downing, has been pivotal in establishing the growth of the titanium powder industry in New Zealand. TiDA was established by a group of companies as a type of cooperative offering research, product development, and high-tech manufacturing solutions based around powdered metals. Mr Downing held a senior position with New Zealand Trade and Enterprise before joining TiDA. He was introduced to powder metallurgy by Ian Macrae from Page & Macrae, who had an interest in introducing powder metallurgy to New Zealand, and was given detailed technical sessions weekly by Dr Peter Franz for four years. Mr Downing is also the executive director of

Rapid Advanced Manufacturing Ltd (RAM), a joint venture between TiDA and a shareholding group. RAM is invested in metal additive manufacturing. Under Mr Downing's leadership, TiDA and RAM have grown to where they are now regarded as among the leading alloy powder consolidation research and manufacturing providers in the world. As part of his role with TiDA and RAM, Mr Downing is a member of the Science Leadership team for titanium powder research and is advisor to the research commercialisation and industry advisory panel TiTeNZ. He represents TiDA at the Independent Research Associations of New Zealand and is a member of the executive of Metals NZ.

It seems a fairly simple thing, to dig a straight hole, but it took Associate Professor Mike Duke and graduate mechanical engineer Ben McGuinness several months to perfect a machine that drills holes accurate enough to ensure pine cuttings grow straight. The hole-drilling dibbler was built at Waikato University for treestock company ArborGen, which uses it to drill holes for planting pine cuttings in its nursery beds. By drilling consistently deep, straight holes, the dibbler has helped improve treestock productivity

MIKE DUKE

by about 30 percent. The \$110,000 project was jointly funded by ArborGen and TechNZ. ArborGen next asked the university's third-year mechanical engineering design students to come up with a way to mechanise the seed planting process. Seven prototypes were designed and built and evaluated by ArborGen and the best design is now being developed into a product, with funding from ArborGen. The research is being part funded by Callaghan Innovation and ArborGen.



GREG EAST

The whole world has feasted its eyes with amazement on at least one of the products that has benefited from the culture of excellence in the workshops of KZ Marine Group, where Greg East is the design and production manager. Mr East's job is to take the ideas and inspirations of the team at KZN and its clients and turn them into reality. The product in the spotlight is the elegant Emirates Team New Zealand yacht, whose engineering has secured its place as one of the most sophisticated products of its type in the world. Mr East, who holds a Trade Certificate (Fitting Turning and Machining) and

NZCE (Mechanical), has always been involved in machining and has a passion for both CNC machines and the products they produce. Marine engineering is very competitive and KNZ has to work exceptionally hard and smart to keep the innovative cutting edge required to secure the work for projects like the America's Cup and the Volvo Ocean Race. Mr East has a reputation for leading by example, expecting only the best from himself and team members, and then providing the environment, guidance, and hands-on training for the team to achieve.