

OPPORTUNITIES TO LEARN ON THE JOB CAREERS WITH FONTERRA

AZAAAN HUSSAIN has already clocked up an impressive work history in engineering workshops around the Waikato. The 18-year-old is proof that hard work and passion for what you are doing can bring rewards, even if you leave school early.

Azaan left Te Awamutu College at the start of Year 12. He had done well, gaining Level 1 and Level 2 qualifications in Year 11, but was keen to get a trade and see how far he could take his passion for welding. He first got a taste for it in engineering classes at school and realised not only did he love it, but he was also very good at it.

Aged 16, Azaan got a job straightaway as a welder with an engineering company that builds farm machinery. In the middle of last year, he realised he was ready for a change and applied to Fonterra for an apprenticeship. The timing was good – he heard he was accepted just as he was made redundant from his welding job – and Azaan hasn't looked back since.

He has started a four-year Level 4 mechanical engineering apprenticeship with Fonterra, based at their Te Awamutu milk-processing plant.

"I love the variety of work," he says. "My previous job was just constant, repetitive work. At Fonterra, I can go from welding something, to machining something on the lathe, to a simple valve repair, servicing things, or just checking things and making sure they are running all good and not making weird noises.

"The actual physical work we do is really interesting and just the sheer scale of things here. With the site being so massive and with it being such a complex role, there is a lot of different machinery to work on. Almost every day you will see something new just because of the amount of things that are here.

"I am always learning. There is so much assistance here and advice that I can get at any time from anyone. You get trained here to a really high standard."

The way Fonterra looks after their staff is another positive for Azaan. He says various departments keep in touch with him to make sure he is going

well with his apprenticeship and getting his work/life balance right.

"There are many different types of support that I get constantly which is really good to have."

Azaan encourages school leavers to consider working for Fonterra.

"It is 100 percent a good industry to get into. You have to be passionate and try things to see

what starts that spark in yourself. The main thing is you have to have drive – how bad do you want it?

"You always have days when you want to stay in bed but you have to think of the bigger picture. What am I going to miss out on today that I could have learnt that will help me tomorrow? So just stay motivated."



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AZAAAN HUSSAIN

KEY FACTS



- **AZAAAN HUSSAIN** IS A **MECHANICAL ENGINEERING APPRENTICE**, BASED AT **FONTERRA'S TE AWAMUTU MILK-PROCESSING PLANT**.
- **BIG POSITIVES** FOR HIM INCLUDE THE **VARIETY OF WORK**, THE **HIGH STANDARD OF TRAINING**, AND THE **SUPPORT FONTERRA OFFERS THEIR STAFF**.
- **AZAAAN** WORKED AS A **WELDER** WITH AN **ENGINEERING COMPANY** BEFORE BEING SELECTED FOR **FONTERRA'S APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMME**.

ONLINE



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or scan the QR Code
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for our **Apprenticeship programme**

