

# Australian joiners enjoy visit

In late 2013 a delegation of 12 cabinet making and joinery business owners including Fred White from HK Joinery Design (Central Coast, NSW), Corey Ison from Pulse Kitchens (Tamworth, NSW), and owners from four other NSW and VIC businesses flew to New Zealand and over three days visited Auckland-based cabinet makers and joiners Central Joinery, Greenmount Manufacturing and RH Page.

The goal of the trip was to visit some of New Zealand's most progressive joiners to view their operations and assess their systems of using 2nd hand PCs on the factory floor and job and staff time tracking software. The visit also afforded the delegation the opportunity to discuss alternative ideas and trends regarding machinery, factory layout, software, systems, new materials, management practises and market trends with their NZ counterparts.



Viewing board management system at Central Joinery.

As current President of the Furniture Industry Association of Australia Fred White wished to be informed about technology driving joinery production. HK Joinery Design has researched the concept of using PCs on the factory floor with time tracking software to manage jobs and staff. To see the system actually operating and to be able to have lengthy discussions with the

management and staff in each business was most worthwhile.

The delegation found that time tracking software is an integral part of the 3 joiners and cabinet makers' processes. The business owners have their entire management team believing in and owning the Empower system which has empowered both factory staff and management to perform beyond their own expectations. All the management teams have seen substantial productivity gains in their businesses brought about by the software.

The delegation also participated in a day long product development meeting with the NZ business owners to advise Empower Software on what is seen as the next developments needed in their software products for materials ordering, stock control and costing & quoting which have been specifically developed for Australian and New Zealand joiners.

The opinion of the delegation is that the 3 joiners visited run world class operations. Central Joinery, Greenmount Manufacturing and RH Page are profiled on [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com). (Type in Central Joinery Empower Software). The delegation was left with little doubt that Empower time tracking and labour management software is an essential tool to allow each of these businesses to be as progressive and profitable as they are.

The delegation left New Zealand convinced that PCs on the factory floor and time tracking software delivers significant factory productivity gains and is the way of the future for Australian and NZ cabinet makers and joiners.

**Article supplied by HK Joinery Design and Pulse Kitchens. You're welcome to phone Corey Ison at Pulse Kitchens +61 2 6766 1022 or Fred White at HK Joinery Design +61 2 4353 5111 to discuss further.**

# centor®



Sliding and folding door gear since 1951. Designed so owners, architects and craftsmen can set their dreams free.

- Folding door systems to 200 kg panels
- Sliding door systems to 400 kg panels
- Integrated Fly and Sun screens
- Bolt and locking systems

Choose the innovators!

**UNIQUE**  
HARDWARE

P: 09 476 4008 F: 09 476 8008 E: [mail@uniquehardware.co.nz](mailto:mail@uniquehardware.co.nz)

visit [www.centor.com.au](http://www.centor.com.au) for ideas and technical material