

Press release – 23 August 2022

## Young electrician from Masterton wins the CONZTRACT Nissan Navara ute!

The 2021/2022 CONZTRACT event series was closed off last week with the drawing of the Nissan Navara ute. Event organisers, The CMS Group, and event partner, J. A. Russell, couldn't have been happier with the result. Leaders of both businesses, along with Nissan's National Manager Product, CMM, C&I and Planning, were there to hand the ute over to the lucky winner, Penny White, electrician at Hoskin Energy Systems in Carterton.

It was no surprise that Penny was thrilled with her win, which was thanks to her attending CONZTRACT in Masterton earlier this year and completing questions in the CONZTRACT learning workbook on the day. This is the second time CONZTRACT attendees have had the chance to win a grand prize of a Nissan Navara ute.

Ian Watt, General Manager at The CMS Group, asked Penny to share a little about her career and why she values the CONZTRACT events whilst handing over the keys.

### **Why did you choose to be a sparkie?**

"I tried uni first but didn't love being in a classroom and wasn't excited about what I was learning. I wanted to find a way to learn and earn money at the same time. My partner was also getting into a building apprenticeship, and I thought, why not?!"

### **Of all trades, why electrical?**

"Well, plumbing wasn't an option and I think electrical was probably the cleanest of the trades! I also was having my house re-wired at the time and that piqued my interest. I saw it as a challenge and sensed I would never get bored."

### **What do you love most about being an electrician?**

"Definitely the variety. I also love the fact I can bring my dog to work, the people, the problem solving and finding new and better ways of doing things. I don't have the strength that the guys have, but that allows me to think differently about things."

### **What is it like working at Hoskins Energy Systems?**

"It's such an awesome place to work. I love the fact it's a family business with a focus on renewable energy, with such a diversity of projects and clients. It's great I get to do a bit of everything. As a young female in a male dominated industry, I'm so thankful for the support I've received. It has made jumping into this industry really easy."

### **Are you a local?**

"Yes, I have always lived in the Masterton area. I was actually born in Martinborough. It's a great place to live and work."

### What's next in your career?

"I've only just finished my apprenticeship so it's a little early for me to say. I'm still learning so much! It's great to finally have my license though and be in the position I can help new people coming through their apprenticeship."

### Was this your first CONZTRUCT event?

"Yes, and I loved it! It was great to be able to put faces to names and ask suppliers direct questions. You learn so much more being able to talk to people one-on-one. It was also great to see so many other girls from trades at the event, and, of course, enjoy CMS's hospitality."

### What does it mean to win the ute?

"I've never won anything before, so it was amazing! I couldn't believe it! I'm just starting out in my career, so it has given me a big leg-up. I was told about my win in our weekly meeting at work so that was very cool and exciting for everyone in our team."



*Left to right: Jenni Stulich, Executive Director Human Resources and Marketing, J. A. Russell Ltd; Penny White, Electrician, Hoskin Energy Systems; Ian Watt, General Manager, The CMS Group; Leighton Agnew, National Manager Product, CMM, C&I and Planning, Nissan New Zealand.*

### About CONZTRUCT

CONZTRUCT is the largest travelling trade show for the builder, electrical, and trade sector in New Zealand.

### CONZTRUCT event partners

The 2021/2022 CONZTRUCT series was proudly supported by leading industry merchants, CARTERS and J. A. Russell Ltd / Radcliffe Electrical, and online specification tool and product library Smartspec + Productspec.