

Technical experience favours **KDT** in edgebander purchase

For Anatolii Oleinikov, travel has always shaped his life. Growing up in Russia, his parents travelled frequently and often took him along, exposing him to new places and cultures from a young age. As he grew older, that early exposure developed into a clear ambition: he wanted to learn English and build a future in an English speaking country. Canada was the goal - but getting a visa proved difficult. Instead of giving up, Anatolii looked for another path. He applied for a New Zealand visa, originally thinking it would be a stepping stone to Canada.

But once he arrived, everything changed. Within months he realised New Zealand wasn't a temporary stop - it was home. The relaxed lifestyle, friendly people and access to the outdoors suited him perfectly. Already holding an engineering degree, he fast tracked a diploma in Mechatronic Engineering and began his professional career.

His first role was in automatic doors - technically interesting but not fulfilling enough. That's when he applied for a position at Jacks. During his interview, he was shown the wiring inside an edgebander. That single moment set his direction. The engineering complexity and automation lit a spark.

"He told us straight away he wanted the hardest machines we had," says Service Manager Scott Villis. "So of course, we put him straight onto edgebanders."

After nearly five years at Jacks, Anatolii gained deep experience across edgebanders, CNCs, and classical machinery. But eventually he wanted to build something of his own, and Kiwi Craft Kitchens Ltd was founded. Anatolii's technical background gave him an immediate advantage. "I knew how to get maximum performance out of CNCs and



Having trained at their factory in Guangzhou Anatolii Oleinikov knew the KDT range well.

edgebanders - so why not apply that to my own workshop? Choosing the best machinery for his business came easily. He had trained at the KDT factory in Guangzhou with the Jacks service team, seeing first hand the automation, consistency and build quality behind the machines. "The price to value ratio was miles ahead of anything else I'd seen," he says. "And I knew how much support Jacks were putting behind KDT. That made a big difference."

Anatolii purchased a KDT 2 Series CNC, edgebander, and panel saw. The CNC impressed immediately. "The accuracy and extra features at this level are unbeatable. The extraction system for example. With the air jets around the spindle, the gated ports and vacuum arm, there's virtually no airborne dust," he says. "Plus, I can add automatic loading and unloading later as my business grows." More recently, he upgraded an

old German edgebander to a KDT KE 268JSA. Even with extensive experience servicing the older machine, it was taking too much time to keep running. "If I'm working on the machine, I'm not making money," he says. The KDT solved that problem immediately. "At that price and quality, it was a no brainer." The KE 268JSA includes features he says you wouldn't normally find at this level: automatic beam height, pre milling, corner rounding, a gravity fed premelt glue system, and pneumatic adjustments across key units. "It's been running for months now and we haven't had to fine-tune the trimmers once. I'm not even doing the edgebanding anymore - I can hand it to staff and know the finish will be spot on."

That consistency matters, because Kiwi Craft Kitchens offers a 15 year warranty on its cabinetry. The machinery must deliver without compromise - and it does.

Looking ahead, Anatolii and his wife and co founder Marina, are already planning their next step - a larger workspace and more automation. "When I was at the KDT factory, I saw the automated handling systems they build. That's the direction I want to head - using affordable automation to stay ahead."

From a childhood filled with travel to a journey that unexpectedly found the perfect landing place, Anatolii's path has been anything but linear. Standing inside Kiwi Craft Kitchens today, growing and innovating - it's clear he's arrived exactly where he was meant to be.



KDT are sold and serviced in NZ by Jacks