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**Mornè Aucamp**

## the Right machine for the job & budget

*Mornè Aucamp, his wife Theresa and 10 month baby boy Brendan made a huge decision 20 years ago to start a new life on the other side of the world. Originally from Johannesburg and with a qualification in Building Management, Mornè and family started a new life in New Zealand, where he soon found work with cladding specialists Symonite. The owner at the time Wayne Sullivan and Mornè bonded over their enthusiasm for ultra-marathons, and with support from Wayne, Mornè quickly became an integral part of the team. After nine years commuting to Auckland, Mornè eventually found work closer to home, including another two year stint with Symonite setting up a new Hamilton branch.*

Fast forward a few years and with plenty of experience in the cladding industry under his belt, 2017 was time for Mornè and family to start their own business. TMB Cladding Services Ltd was born. (TMB represents each of the family member's first initials.) When not working in the business, son Brendan is studying towards a Bachelors' degree in Civil Engineer with an eye on eventually taking over, while Theresa looks after HR and manages TMB's Sitewise Green status.



*Residential cladding by TMB.*

TMB Cladding Services Ltd specialise in the supply and installation of cladding systems for commercial & residential buildings. They use a range of materials such as Alucabond, solid aluminium, Indurabond and Induracore to clad commercial buildings. Panels are typically 4mm thick and made of a mineral core with a thin aluminium outer layer. Each material is slightly different and as such requires a specific machining approach.

The main piece of machinery Mornè identified as necessary to be competitive in the cladding industry was a CNC router. The CNC is used to cut, drill and process V-groove fold lines in the panels. Mornè researched the options available in NZ and Australia. He identified the Alu Ranger vertical CNC machine - specifically to process panels for commercial cladding industry - as the machine for his new business.

He contacted Jacks who are the agents, but it soon became clear that an Alu Ranger would stretch the budget too far for a start-up business. Mornè's next best option was a flat-bed nesting CNC, and again his research led him to Jacks - this time for an Anderson Spectra 4216.

Local support and compliance to New Zealand safety standards were the two main reasons for deciding to go with the Anderson Spectra. With a busy workshop, people and clients coming and going, Mornè wanted the peace of mind that came with a fully guarded CNC, including fences and light barriers.

With the Anderson weighing in at over four ton and built like the proverbial, Mornè also knew he'd invested in a CNC machine that would stand the test of time under the most demanding processing requirements.

"I could have bought a CNC directly out of China for half the price but I knew it wouldn't be the same quality. I processed 300 sheets of solid aluminium in three weeks and the Anderson didn't skip a beat. Everything on the machine is quality" says Mornè. "It's also simple and easy to use. You don't need a science degree to operate it. It's just a great tool to work with".

As parts of the installation and training process Mornè was shown how to take his Autocad files of cladding components and generate the CNC machining file in VCarve - software supplied by Jacks together with the Anderson. Over time Mornè has refined the process such that design file to CNC machining file is now quick and easy, regardless of the unique machining requirements specific to the many different materials the company uses.

With the order book stretching out further than it ever has, Mornè is happy. A combination of experience, strong family support, the construction industry being in good shape, and having invested in the right CNC for the job, TMB Cladding Services Ltd's future is looking extremely positive.

It might not be long before an Alu Ranger is added to further increase productivity and capacity.

