



*Stacey Tuxford receives the award for overall outstanding achievement in a CILT qualification from Dr Robin Dunlop at the CILT NZ Awards 2015*

## Stacey Tuxford – “Construction logistics needs more exposure”

Stacey Tuxford worked in hospitality for more than 10 years – then one day realised the industry wasn’t for her anymore. This is her story.

I was still in my twenties and was looking for other opportunities to broaden my horizons. The opening came along purely by chance – there was a vacancy for a traffic controller on a construction site, which involved stopping traffic to allow site vehicles to enter and exit safely. This opportunity was not one to be missed.

Through encouragement and support, I was then asked to control the site logistics for the project, again ensuring site vehicles were able to enter and exit safely, but also to coordinate the deliveries to the site access points to ensure there were no clashes. With my previous experience working in kitchens, it taught me to multi-task, think on my feet, be organised and manage time efficiently.

These are aptitudes that you pick up as you go and can be used in any industry.

I have now been in the construction industry for nearly eight years, six of which have been in charge of construction logistics as well being in charge of teams controlling site access points on various sites of local and national importance in Auckland.

At present, I am part of an important tunnelling project of national significance, controlling logistics operations and ensuring site traffic and plant move efficiently through the site access points to relieve congestion.

## A DIFFERENT VIEWPOINT

Construction logistics is an area which needs more exposure in New Zealand. When utilised, it enables better coordination, assists in reducing congestion on a site, and offers more control and balance on busy sites. Utilising construction logistics from the start of a project offers a different viewpoint – a way of looking at access before the project commences and the trucks start rolling through the gates.

I was encouraged to obtain formal training to back up my acquired knowledge of logistics. I started looking into the different courses offered by tertiary institutes and found the Certificate of Transport and Logistics offered by the Logistics Training Group.

The style of learning and being able to do this long distance and self-paced meant that I was able to study while working full-time without interruption. This type of learning requires self-discipline and drive, but help was just a phone call away when I needed it.

## STRONG SUPPORT

Doing this certificate has not been without its challenges. I found it hard studying every night and spending my weekends working on assignments to meet deadlines, but to get me through, I felt it was important to just keep chipping away at the task. I was lucky to have strong support from my husband and my mum – they were great and put up with my less-than-happy demeanour at times, and sometimes the choice words which I aimed at my computer!

I started the CILT UK Certificate in Transport and Logistics in March 2014 and completed it in December that year. In October last year, I received the CILT NZ award for overall outstanding achievement in a CILT qualification. I had attained merits and distinctions for my study doing the certificate, with an overall grade of distinction.

## STRUCTURED LEARNING

Currently, I am undertaking the CILT UK Professional Diploma in Transport and Logistics which I started in January last year, with the goal of completing these studies in June this year.

I structured my learning by starting with the certificate first, as I felt it was important to gain a good overall understanding of this field and to get used to studying again – the last time I studied was 19 years ago, when I wanted to do graphic design.

I'm glad I completed the certificate first as it has given me the confidence to pursue my diploma which to date has been very rewarding.

***The CILT UK Certificate in Logistics and Transport is offered in New Zealand by the Logistics Training Group; for further information, visit [www.ltg.co.nz](http://www.ltg.co.nz)***