Sydney showcase review

'SO MUCH TO SEE, SO MUCH VARIETY - ALL IN ONE SPOT'

That was the typical response from visitors to the Gabbett showcase held in the Sydney showrooms in early July.

Using their purpose built showroom in Sydney allowed Gabbett Machinery to show a massive range of their products – from nesting cells, traditional joinery machines & edgebanders all the way through to aluminium processing machines.

A wide range of manufacturers attended, representing cabinetmaking, the furniture industry, joinery companies and the aluminium industries. The majority of visitors were from all parts of Australia and New Zealand, however clients as far away as Europe and the US also utilised the showcase to research the latest production methods.



One of the highlights in the CNC range was the release of the new PratixS nesting centre. This is the perfect example of a large company such as SCM doing what they do best – they have utilised all their knowledge and advantages on their million dollar nesting cells, and bought it into a compact machine that is great value. Available in a range of bed sizes, the machine is perfect for our nesting market. Its unique design is compact and as a genuine European machine you can see the build quality.

Paul Edmunds, CNC product manager for Gabbett Machinery said 'we're pretty excited to be releasing this machine to the Australian and New Zealand markets. Its already been amazingly popular. We have had forward orders on our stock machines for some time, now our biggest issue is we have presold our allocation from the European factories – we're fighting to get more stock!'

At the time of printing, new stocks were on their way, with the European factories increasing their production runs to cope with the increased demand.



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GAB

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While the new model was a highlight, what was interesting to see was the Gabbett nesting range. No limitations in floor space allowed for all the models to be on display, it made for an impressive sight – a line of CNC nesters the length of the factory, all machining – all working. A range of nested dinosaurs proved popular with the younger visitors.

In new CNC technology, one of the major drawcards was the 5 axis machining centre. While the machine was setup to perform a variety of operations, one of the demo's truly captured the versatility of a 5 axis machine. The machine started with a Merbau sample, about 250mm x 250mm and 100mm in height. Using a combination of 5 axis saw, routing, drilling and engraving the final piece was machined. A perfect sphere, with logo's engraved & sample holes machined – the Gabbett company are obviously proud of the local heritage, with the sample being used to display our countries flags! (the Gabbett company is still fiercely 100% locally owned)



You can see some of the 5 axis demos at the gabbett video hub – available through their website <u>www.gabbett.com</u>



The increased floorspace allowed for a traditional joinery display to be setup, incorporating thicknessers, spindles and wide belt sanders. SCM's Ten220 tenoning machine with interchangeable spindle was also on display, showing how quick setup times are on these sorts of machines.

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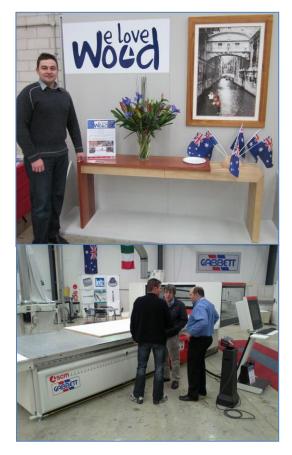


The showcase also allowed the company to expand its service division. Technicians from New Zealand, Queensland, WA, Victoria, South Australia were all on hand undergoing training on the new product ranges.

Due to the range of machines on display, many visitors spent longer than intended on site. at these times the Italian catering proved very popular, the seating of the hospitality area was also well utilised from worn out patrons!

The company took a unique angle on its displays, with a showcase of customer products. These products varied from torches used during the 2004 Athens Olympics, guitars, pilates benches through to solid timber furniture. All designed and manufactured on Gabbett machinery products.

A unique showcase that certainly proved worth visiting.



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