



National Meat Industry  
Training Advisory Council Limited  
**MINTRAC** Scholarship Program

U N D E R G R A D U A T E S C H O L A R S H I P

## **Craig Spradbrow**

**MINTRAC Undergraduate Scholarship 2004-2008**

**Sponsor: Fletcher International Exports**

**Qualification: Bachelor of Business Economics**

**Tertiary Institution: The University of Newcastle**

### *The Scholarship*

The MINTRAC scholarship helped me to successfully complete my studies over the course of four years and receive excellent marks. The scholarship allowed me to be financially independent from my parents. Combined with regular work throughout the year with my sponsor company Fletcher International Exports, I had no financial stresses which many of my peers endured. The scholarship program also allowed me to gain invaluable industry experience which is highly sought after by employers.

### *Personal benefits of the study*

My studies have given me the required theory to operate in the often high pressure and strategically important areas of Management, Human Resources and Economics. Without the underlying theory gained through my studies it would be difficult to effectively practice in my chosen areas of work. My studies also gave me a greater idea of my desired career path.

### *Benefits to the company and industry*

Through my work with Fletcher International Exports, I was able to implement my learning into practice which in turn helped Fletcher International Exports achieve its goals while also providing me with hands on experience. I worked mainly within the human resources department which has turned out to be my chosen career path. During my time, I undertook various projects all of which provided mutual benefit to me and Fletcher International Exports

Business and economics are areas that affect every part in the meat industry. From Human Resources and Industrial Relations, to the economics of foreign currency exchange, the meat industry is involved in a global market place and faces the same and sometimes extra challenges that every other industry faces. Understanding of business and economics is vital for the industry to remain competitive and operate efficiently and effectively.

### *Future plans*

Unfortunately, at this stage I will not be undertaking a role within the meat industry. I have been offered a role in the banking industry which meets my career path aspirations and provides me with greater diversity of experience on top of what I have gained from the meat industry. This is not to say that my career will not lead me towards the meat industry in the future. I have gained much from my time working in the industry and have enjoyed it thoroughly.

## *Suggestions*

The MINTRAC scholarship program is a wonderful resource. It has helped me immensely and allowed me to achieve many goals that I may not have been able to achieve otherwise. My suggestions for improving the scheme would be to increase the awareness of the scholarships. Many would be students cannot afford the cost of university and many brilliant minds are never fully utilised. I suggest that sponsor companies should advertise the program at career days and in School newsletters etc.

Finally, thank you to MINTRAC, AMP and Fletcher International Exports for providing me with the opportunity to participate in the scholarship program.



Craig Spradbrow



**MINTRAC**

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