

# FROM A HOBBY TO A FULL TIME BUSINESS

Marty's Panel & Paint has come a long way since starting out as a backyard hobby. Marty grew to running the panel shop as a home based business but things really took a turn when he moved into the current premises behind the truck fuelling station on Main Road South in Levin. Now Marty's Panel & Paint is housed in a purpose built workshop. "Because of where we are, at the truck fuelling station, trucks and motorhomes come in here to fuel. We have a prime location for visibility," Marty says.

The latest development was inaugurated with a special launch event in May with local dignitaries getting some spray time in the new Truck Booth. The 16 metre long, four and a half metre high and five and a half metre wide Zenhan truck low-bake oven has some accompanying high-tech features including a central dividing wall allowing the oven to be used simultaneously - both the vehicle and its parts can be worked on at the same time, speeding up production. The dividing wall can also be opened to allow spray painting on large vehicles, which can then drive straight through.

On the 'green' side, and equally important, the bake oven has a full downdraft and runs on diesel rather than gas. This is a safer option for employees and more environmentally friendly, holding 98 percent of the paint. Added to this, Marty says, "We have the most environmentally safe product that you can use. It's all low emission and is well in advance of a lot of other paints. Basically, you're never going to get it any better than what we have got." Marty Panel & Paint use DuPont Imron™ Fleet Line, the next generation to the Imron™ range.

The Imron™ Fleet Line system is a comprehensive finishing system which meets the future VOC compliance, offering great versatility in application, all to the same superior quality expected of the DuPont standard. Whatever the customer drives into Marty's workshop, a solution will be found for it within the system. Original manufacturers' specifications are easy to find, while a perfect match for any existing colour can be quickly achieved with complete accuracy. From the touch up, to total repaint, from flat colours to completely customised creations, Imron™ Fleet Line guarantees a perfect and durable finish with outstanding appearance every time. In the DuPont Colour reference database there are over 29 000 colour references to choose from, which surely must satisfy even the fussiest customer. This fantastic new system offers heavy duty quality for heavy duty results.

Growing from a staff of three 12 months ago, proprietor Marty now employs five men to meet the demand of spray painting motorhomes, caravans, planes, loaders, tractors, industrial equipment and cars. "We're setting ourselves up to have the motorhome market, because that's the largest growing market in New Zealand, so

there's a huge untapped market that we intend to tap into," Marty says.

Marty has also added a graphics side to his business, he can carry out graphic designs or pin striping on vehicles.

Marty Panel & Paint, 23 Coventry Street, Levin can be contacted on 06-368 8276. 

