



## DANIEL SAMPSON

**Daniel Sampson is a plant operator and truck driver based on the Gold Coast, Queensland. He's been working in the industry for more than 20 years and on his days off, he loves riding his bike. For this edition's Contractor Profile, we tell you more about Daniel.**

### **Describe the area where you do most of your work.**

We do general hire and predominantly work on beach tidal zones, rivers and canals.

### **What machine do you use that works best in the area you're working in?**

I am currently running a Terex PT60 tracked loader and a CAT 305CR.

### **What made you choose the machine you are using? And why is this machine unique?**

These machines are the only machines that will work in these conditions. You cannot go into tidal zones on tyres!

### **How many machines do you have and what are your top two favourites?**

We have three machines altogether. I don't really have a favourite, they all have a job to do.

### **How did you end up in the industry?**

Just lucky I guess! I started out labouring and worked my way up. Unfortunately I failed at brain surgery, so I went to the next best thing.

### **Have you always wanted to be a contractor?**

Not really, it was more about taking up on an opportunity and trying to run with it.

### **What's the best thing about your job?**

I think the self-satisfaction of owning and running

your own business is hard to beat.

### **What is the worst thing about your job?**

Having to work early mornings and the grease gun.

### **How does your machine perform in such extreme conditions?**

Both my Cat 305CR and TEREX PT60 perform well otherwise I wouldn't own them. I have to be able to rely on them totally.

### **How often do you need to do maintenance work on your machines?**

They get a grease every day and a coating of Lanolin regularly, as well as regular servicing and normal maintenance issues.

### **What are your goals professionally in the next five to 10 years?**

I would like to have the same customer satisfaction and volume of work we currently do.

### **Do you have "dream equipment" you would like that you don't already have?**

There are always new attachments and machines that are enticing.

### **What is your advice to those who are thinking of going into this industry?**

Don't be scared to start at the bottom, we all do, and never stop listening!

### **With your experience in the field now, what do you think you should have done better early on in your career?**

I think I would have saved up a bit more capital to get underway.

### **If you were not a contractor, what other profession would you want to do?**

I would love to be a musician or own a pub.

### **How do you take a break or relax after a grueling day at work?**

I don't mind tinkering in the shed with a beer and a mate, but I also love a good ride on my 1979 Harley Davidson. **EE**

