



## Focus on quality systems

The horticulture sector in New Zealand is responsible for more than 7% of New Zealand's merchandise exports, and is currently enjoying a period of outstanding growth.

This growth, the result of huge gains in productivity, means that the sector plays an increasingly important role in the New Zealand export picture. Over the last 16 years, its share of total export values has risen by nearly 140%.

One of the trends behind this growth in productivity has been the introduction of a range of technology innovations across both on-orchard and off-orchard activities.

Directors JR Van Vliet and Jamiee Burns of JR's Orchards in Greytown are no strangers to innovation and the use of technology in their business, having already installed the latest smart technology in their packhouse.

Another innovation just adopted by JR's is the introduction of software to streamline the management and allocation of jobs to staff out in the field.

Vinea is software for 'growing' businesses and is in use by growers and contractors in both the North and South Island.

Jamie has responsibility for administration and logistics, and her openness to innovation, led her to search for a solution to reduce the administrative burden associated with recording and tracking time and piecework in the orchard. Her aim was to use this data to speed up payroll processing, simplify compliance and measure productivity.

When Jamiee saw Vinea, she immediately understood the benefits of having access to quality management information at her fingertips, starting with complete worker profiles to assist in the pastoral care of RSE's and other workers, along with detailed records of each job undertaken: what, when, where and by whom.

*Vinea's direct integration with leading payroll systems delivers a seamless flow of attendance and piecework information from mobile devices in the field to payment of workers, allowing JR's to significantly reduce payroll processing times.*

With an increasing compliance related demands on an industry heavily dependent on labour for seasonal activities, Jamiee was also looking for a system to make it easier to meet labour related compliance obligations.

These include:

- retaining complete employee personal, immigration and timesheet/piecework records;
- ensuring staff are always paid at or above minimum wage levels;
- having quality Health and Safety practices.

JR's takes these obligations very seriously, especially as a long term member of the Recognised Season Employer Scheme, and Vinea ticks the boxes in all these areas!

- Its worker profile provides instant access to a range of personnel information ranging from contact details and next of kin, to immigration, driver's license, skills, payroll and medical information;

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- Vinea caters for hourly or piecework-based remuneration with individuals pay capable of being either activity or pay scale based. It also has built-in calculations to alert management to workers requiring a top-up to reach minimum wage and can even generate payroll entries for this;
- Job related hazard details are available to supervisors in the field, and any incidents can be captured in the field with notifications sent to management.

Much like JR himself, Vinea's creator, Wellington-based *Infopower*, has now been operating successfully for over 20 years.

Jamiee and JR are focussed on having quality systems in place throughout their Orchards, and were looking for a software solution that will grow with their evolving needs.

No business can stand still, and Jamiee likes the fact that Vinea had been developed with the support of its grower and contractor clients, and that Vinea's future roadmap is driven by its customers and industry best practice.

Jamie also appreciates Vinea's ease of use, which meant she could be fully operational with the software within two weeks of committing to it.

For more information on Vinea, go to [www.vinea.co.nz](http://www.vinea.co.nz), email [hello@vinea.co.nz](mailto:hello@vinea.co.nz) or call 04 978 2030. 