



Carl Perry (left) with Company Director Mike Ensor, their new Morbidelli 5 axis has increased capacity and capability at Three Sixty Limited.

## any material any shape any time

*Three Sixty Limited is an engineering company specialising in retail fit outs and product displays, of any shape and in virtually any material. With big corporate clients that include Noel Lemmings, BNZ, Samsung, Fisher & Paykel and the Auckland City Council quality is always exacting and timing often challenging. The recent purchase of an SCM Morbidelli m400 5 axis machine from Machines R Us has enabled the company to meet these requirements and bring its deadlines under its own control*

The company which employs more than 50 staff on Auckland's North Shore, have their own design office, production facility, engineering workshop, signage shop and LED lighting department, and provides a full installation and maintenance service. It was however having to contract out some of the joinery and 3D shaping aspect of this work with a resultant dependence on others regarding quality and meeting deadlines. This with a big increase in workload and orders over the past 12 months meant company director Mike Ensor decided it was the right time to look at redressing these issues and improve the company's control.

The first part of this was to employ someone with specialist knowledge in CNC machining. "We do a lot of erratic shapes and one off specials and needed a good programmer and operator to take our designs through to production. I was lucky enough to find Carl Perry with experience in both design and the operation of CNC machinery and together we looked to refresh the company's machinery," says Mike.

"The large variety in our work means we needed a machine capable of cutting and sculpting complex and often oversize shapes

*we are very happy with  
the machine it's running  
flawlessly and has been in full  
production since the day they  
commissioned it without any  
interruptions or issues*

in materials as varied as plastic, acrylics, corian, mdf and solid timber, ideally a multi axis machine capable of heavy use, fast through put and quick change out between jobs.

"We settled on a Morbidelli for several reasons" says Mike. "Firstly, I liked the brand, we have been running an old Morbidelli point to point, purchased second hand more than a decade ago, and it has always been trouble free. Also the Morbidelli m400 can cut almost any material and has a 5m bed with the ability to work both ends. We can load both sides which gives great speed or we can be running a long run on one side and then interrupt that to do a smaller run on the other side before returning to the main job.

"Quality and timing is very important to us. In fact our motto is - safety first, then quality, then deadlines with profit last - doesn't necessarily impress our bank manager but it keeps our staff and clients happy which is more important. This machine is very safe, very precise and allows us to gain great accuracy while maintaining the speed to achieve our deadlines and margins.

"We have definitely chosen the right machine. It has done everything and more expected of it, opening up new areas of work and doing the old work better. For example we don't need to construct jigs anymore and it allows us to easily run up a prototype when tendering for jobs, something that in the past was often very expensive.

"It has certainly freed up time in the company, previously we were continuously waiting for the CNC to become available now it is the other way around. It is a hungry beast and with its capability and capacity - we are unlikely to be needing to shop any work out for a while."

