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WELLINGTON COMPANY SOUGHT AFTER IN CHINA

Neil Edwards, director of Wellington quantity surveying company, Ortus International, has come back from China astounded at the present construction growth and the opportunities for New Zealand.

“The current level of expansion in China is staggering. It presents fantastic opportunities for Ortus and our expertise is increasingly in demand there. Not only that, there are varying opportunities for the New Zealand construction industry as a whole.”

Edwards has just returned from a week doing infrastructure valuations for multinational giant Henkel Group, which owns a number of businesses in China. His valuations covered a technology plant in Shanghai, a detergent plant in Xuzhou and an adhesive plant in Shantou.

“This is a new project and will require ‘desk-based’ re-evaluations on a yearly basis and on-site evaluations every five years,” said Edwards.

Ortus carried out the valuations of the German Henkel Group sites for its Asia-based associate, John Foord (Asia) Pte Ltd.

“John Foord is considered an expert in that part of the world, with considerable industry and sector knowledge. However, they continue to call on us at Ortus to assist them with our areas of special expertise, in particular, infrastructure valuations.”

Other valuations Ortus has carried out for John Foord include the Petronas Towers in Kuala Lumpur, the Bangkok Metro and pharmaceutical plants in China and Hong Kong. Edwards says carrying out these major international projects gives Ortus significant additional expertise they can use for their New Zealand clients.

“We may be a small company, but we are now punching well above our weight in Asia.”

Edwards says the Chinese building industry is expanding rapidly and is producing quality products at a price that will potentially positively impact on the construction industry in New Zealand.

With cheaper labour costs, China is now producing and exporting core construction materials such as Gibraltar board, plumbing fittings, cranes and steel construction componentry

“Cheaper products such as these, at the right level of quality, will help the New Zealand construction industry continue to grow, even if there is a small economic down turn.”

“The long term impact of Chinese industrial growth is hard to comprehend, but in the short term at least, there are real opportunities for Ortus and for the New Zealand construction industry.

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NOTE TO EDITORS/ILLUSTRATIONS EDITORS

- Tif and jpg photos available if required.
- Ortus International is one of New Zealand’s leading cost economics, quantity surveying and plant valuation companies. It has offices in Wellington and Auckland and associated offices in Singapore and the UK.
- Ortus International works in association with John Foord Limited. The two companies have undertaken quantity surveying and plant valuation work in over thirty-six countries. In addition, Ortus International provides cost control services to many of New Zealand’s largest corporates and financial institutions
- Ortus International provides expert services in:
 - Quantity surveying
 - Project and due diligence audits
 - Financial management
 - Insurance valuations
 - Depreciation schedules
 - Value management
 - Economic appraisal
 - Procurement management.