



MILKING TIME
EASIER
AND MORE
ENJOYABLE

ALLISTER SIMSON
WHENUAKURA, SOUTH TARANAKI,
NEW ZEALAND

PROJECT SPECS

Centrus Composite Rotary Milking System - 60 Bails | 540 Cows | Commissioned 2021

Product Highlights: ECR Plus, SmartSPRAY, Cow Restraints, Platform Positioning System
Waikato 320 Claws, Industrial Double Bank Plate Cooler

AUTHORISED WAIKATO MILKING SYSTEMS DEALER: Hunts Farm Services and
Moa Rotary Platforms



A more efficient and enjoyable milking time, for staff and cows

Since installing a new 60-point Centrus Composite Rotary milking system, milking time has become more efficient and enjoyable for the sharemilkers, staff and cows working on Allister Simson's 300 hectare farm in Whenuakura, South Taranaki.

While dairy is the farm's main focus they also run approximately 30 beef animals that are grazed on the steeper sidling paddocks, and all of the young stock (116 rising-2s and 132 calves) are living on the farm. The Simson farm has the capacity to run 650 dairy cows, but with the young stock on-farm peak milking has been set at 540 cows. "That takes a bit of pressure off the farm system and the 60-bail Centrus performs well milking that



number of cows at peak, with room to go further if needed" says Allister.

Working with their Waikato Milking Systems dealers, Hunts Farm Services and Moa Rotary Platforms, the new milking system was installed in time for the 2021-22 season - replacing the farm's original 40-point open centre steel platform rotary that was commissioned in 1982.

"The old rotary had served us well, but its steel platform had come to the end of its life and the overall system was too small for the number of dairy cows on the farm now" says Allister.

Because the old milking shed was tight for space, Allister knew that if he were to put a new platform into the old shed it would have to be of a smaller size because of the limited clearance, saying "That's one of the reasons we decided on a new build instead of redevelopment."

To make the most use of the existing infrastructure including the races, tanker track and effluent system - the new system was built next to the old milking system. The new

collection yard, entry and exit points were modelled on the old rotary shed to provide a familiar cow-flow system for the animals to follow. "We designed it that way so it wouldn't be too much of a change for the cows and I think they have adapted well" says Allister.

"We had cup removers on the old rotary too but it's the time management factor in the Centrus which has improved and made the difference we were looking for."

"The outside of the new parlour may look familiar, but inside is where the differences with the new modern milking system become apparent. "It's a lot more open compared to our old rotary sheds and there's more light coming in. There's also more room to manoeuvre which makes it easy for the sharemilkers and staff when they're working."

Before deciding on a new milking system Allister had looked at several other rotary manufacturers, but it was Waikato Milking Systems composite deck on the Centrus system that really appealed. "There isn't anyone else making decks using composite materials that are much lighter and longer lasting, everything

seems to be concrete these days. I went to see a few other Centrus platforms working and they still looked brand new after two or three years". Allister adds "The composite deck operates much more quietly than the steel deck on the old rotary, providing a calm environment for everyone to work in".

Feedback from Allister's sharemilkers, Dean and Jess, confirms that their milking time has reduced considerably "through very good cow-flow and the easy operation of the new milking system".

Thanks to some key automation onboard the Centrus system, only one person is required for milking. This automation includes the ECR-Plus (electronic cup removers), the SmartSPRAY system (automatic teat spray) and Cow Retention. "We had cup removers on the old rotary too but it's the time management factor in the Centrus which has improved and made the difference we were looking for" says Allister. The unique Bail Marshall system on the Centrus will allow more automation features to be added later when needed.

During the build of the new Centrus system, which started in 2020, milking continued out of the old shed to avoid disruption to the business. The project was originally scheduled for completion within 8 months, however the Covid-19 pandemic forced delays and the parlour was completed in 2021.



PRODUCT INFORMATION

UNSTOPPABLE PERFORMANCE AND PRODUCTIVITY

Improve your milking performance, productivity and profitability 24/7, with the Centrus Composite Rotary Milking System.



Around the clock milking performance, that never stops.

Designed to never stop turning for 24/7 performance and productivity, and for ease of cleaning without stopping the rotary.



Better for farmers, better for cows.

The user-friendly system maximises efficiency and provides a quiet, comfortable and stress-free milking environment for the operator and cows.



Constructed for unstoppable performance and longevity

The multi-layered laminated composite deck is up to 75% lighter, structurally superior, and more durable than traditional concrete or steel alternatives.

CENTRUS COMPOSITE

