



Rhys Burton

ECANZ National Vice President Biography

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I would like to thank my peers who have nominated me for the upcoming role as the member elected Vice President of the Electrical Contractors Association of NZ and want to share a little bit about myself

There are unlimited opportunities to build strength between our branches, suppliers, and each other to make our industry association more cohesive. If successful, I am committed to representing our membership competently, progressing into the future National Presidents role with the same passion and determination.

Being the Vice President of ECANZ is an exciting opportunity which I feel I am well suited for. I possess the skills required to make informed decisions and will act in the best interest of the membership to represent the association well.

I have over 20 years' experience working in the electrical industry and enjoy my roles as Senior Leader, Shareholder, and General Manager of Service at Dalton Electrical Ltd, one of the largest industrial focused electrical contracting businesses in Auckland. My diverse background in the industry means I appreciate the challenges of electrical contracting, allowing me to relate to people from all walks of life.

My connection to the East Auckland community, specifically Howick, spans four generations and is the place I call home with my wife, Tarsh, teenagers; Jack, and Ella, and two dogs; Deisel, and Delta. With a passion for the outdoors, I enjoy boating, fishing, hunting, and hiking. This allows me to get a good balance between living in New Zealand's biggest city and staying connected with our expansive back country and beautiful remote scenery.

I served my apprenticeship as an industrial maintenance electrician in some of Auckland's largest industrial manufacturing sites, then spent 5 years as an industrial refrigeration technician. I then started my electrical contracting business, which I enjoyed for 4 years. Through this I met Bruce Dalton who gave me the chance to establish an industrial maintenance division at Dalton Electrical.

The last 16 years at Dalton's have provided me immense opportunity to grow personally and professionally, supporting me to gain an Electrical Inspectors registration, complete a degree in Applied Management and attend the Institute of Directors certificate in company direction course in 2023. This time has also allowed me to grow a capable team of 60 service electricians, technicians, supervisors, and managers, and to support our core business through establishing our service branches in Rosedale on the North Shore, and Wiri in Manukau.

My tenure as President of the Auckland Branch of ECANZ came to its conclusion last September, which presents the opportunity to become more involved with our national office. I believe I am a suitable candidate for the National VP role as I feel I demonstrated good character and strong ethics through my tenure, and the experience helped me to clearly understand the benefits of being a Master Electrician member. Speaking in front of 400 people at our industry dinner as Auckland President was my biggest mountain to climb, challenging me to grow in confidence, and is one of the highlights of my career to date.

Remaining an active committee member in Auckland is important to me, and I enjoy the wealth of knowledge our members have to continue to guide me to understand the history of the organisation, and what we can do to appreciate those who have given so much to our industry previously. Building stronger relationships between Auckland Branch and National Office was very satisfying, and this has also extended to interbranch relations which I hope to continue to grow if elected.
