

As part of celebrating our 20 years' experience and leadership in health and safety, IMPAC is proud to showcase some of our clients' health and safety stories and our partnership with them to work towards health and safety excellence and engagement.

+IMPAC
Less risk, safe people, better business



Understanding critical risks and taking positive action.

Passionate about developing an inclusive health and safety culture for their iwi, Ngāi Tahu Farming asked IMPAC to undertake a review of their farming operation. That review was honest – in the words of Andrew Priest, Chief Executive, “at times even brutal” – but has led to the development of a strong partnership focused on continuous improvement and significant change in Ngāi Tahu Farming’s approach to health and safety.

Ngāi Tahu Farming have over 100,000 hectares of farming and forestry land across Te Waipounamu (South Island) employing around 250 kaimahi (workers). Despite significantly different issues and challenges being faced on the high country stations, the dairy farms, the beef farms and in the forestry operations, there is a singular commitment to health & safety and to iwi – intertwined through the Ngāi Tahu core values of Whanaungatanga, which relates to family

and kinship, and Manaakitanga, which is about respect, care and looking after each other.

One of the critical risks of Ngāi Tahu Farming’s dairy and grazing business is working with large animals. With no written controls framework in place, IMPAC helped Ngāi Tahu Farming develop a robust controls framework and, with that now in place, it has helped reduce and manage this risk.

Taking the view to eliminate risk where possible, not just manage it, has led Ngāi Tahu Farming to remove all their quad bikes across their farming operations. Knowing that quad bikes don’t have a good history in terms of injuries and fatalities, they have been replaced with side-by-side utility vehicles that are much lower on the risk profile.

Concentrating on these critical risks with IMPAC has completely changed the organisation’s board and management

reporting to ensure a focus on health and safety critical priorities. As Andrew Priest says “we’ve put a lot of effort to make sure that everyone does get home safe at the end of each day, working with IMPAC to understand the critical risks in our business, what to do if there is an incident and how we manage contractors on farms. And importantly IMPAC talked to our frontline people actually doing the mahi – the work – on the farms to see how well we were following through on our health and safety management system.”

“Kai hoki ora atu – everyone home safe every day – that’s the mantra we live by with the health and safety philosophy at Ngāi Tahu Farming.”

NGĀI TAHU Farming