



## The Rozelle Interchange Project's first apprentice graduates with a bright future in carpentry



In February 2020, we welcomed Bun San Chhay (Sanchez) as our first ever apprentice at the Rozelle Interchange Project. We are thrilled to announce, Bun, affectionately known as 'Sanchez', has completed his studies and is now a qualified carpenter.

The opportunity was offered to Sanchez, an exiting John Holland employee from the M4 East Project who carried out various labouring duties including operating franna cranes and was highlighted as an ideal candidate for the apprenticeship due to his exceptional work ethic and eagerness to learn from his supervisors and team.

Completing an apprenticeship at the Rozelle Interchange Project enabled Sanchez to maintain full time employment on the project while completing modules onsite. His studies were enhanced by site-based learning overseen by Civil Superintendent Sash Despotoski. He acquired many new skills throughout his two-year carpentry apprenticeship. Accomplishments included making cabinets, awnings, hoarding and formwork.

Working alongside skilled tradesmen enriched Sanchez's learning and created mentoring opportunities for long term employees on the project. Allowing them to impart their knowledge and skills, ensuring valuable 'tricks of the trade' are passed on to future generations. Sanchez completed his apprenticeship in two years, which is half the usual timeframe and he fulfilled the majority of the theory work in his own time, showing extreme dedication to his career aspirations. His peers regularly commended him for always being willing to learn and develop his carpentry skills.

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**When asked what advice he would give to anyone out there thinking about upskilling, Sanchez responded: 'don't wait, just do it, what have you got to lose?'**

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The project is incredibly proud that Sanchez has now completed his two-year apprenticeship with a bright future in the construction industry as a skilled carpenter. With 14 apprentices currently employed on the project in the first quarter of 2022 the Rozelle Interchange Project is committed to supporting our workforce through the ranks to become new leaders and shape our industry for the future.

