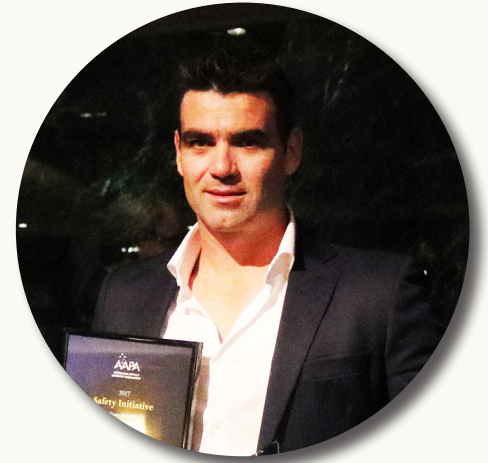


# AAPA 2017 WA SAFETY INITIATIVE AWARD WINNER



## CHAD KOMARNYCKYJ

Western Australia's winner, Chad Komarnyckyj, established Westcoast Profilers in 2009. Today it's WA's biggest profiling company with 60 staff and 45 plant.

Chad is very committed to the safety of his staff. He closes the business for annual safety days and invests in new safer technology when it becomes available.

The safety initiative that won Chad the award is a foot guard for use on profiling machines. The impetus was a near miss that might have cost an operator his toes.

Chad researched the problem and found that similar incidents were being reported by other profilers nationally and internationally. Operators had been checking the levels on the ground by rubbing their feet between the milling drum and the rear tracks. Companies were reporting that operators' toes were sometimes caught by the rear tracks and then run over.

A safety guard was developed and attached to the side plate next to the rear of the milling drum, stopping operators from putting feet into the path of the rear tracks of the profiler. The guard resulted in the operator checking levels at the rear of the machine, thereby reducing potential incident or injury.

The challenge was to add the safety guard without interfering with the operation of the profiler, as operators require access to the milling drum for maintenance, so the foot guard was designed to return to 90 degrees.

Chad's research and development could prevent many foot injuries if this innovation is picked up internationally.