



Canterbury summit focuses on importance of people

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Thursday, 03 September 2009

At the Canterbury Software Cluster Summit earlier this week, the focus was on hiring and retaining skilled staff as well as the importance of the client.

The event was opened by CEO of the cluster Terry Paddy, who commented on the changes to NZTE and the structuring of core business support teams into an Auckland focused contact centre. He also emphasised the need for governments to think about little businesses in addition to ones that were already successful.



North Shore MP Wayne Mapp presented a speech and said that the focus for government is on enabling through projects such as greater investment in broadband and bolstering already successful companies, such as Weta, in order to make them "leading edge".

There were two streams of the summit: one regarding the professional aspects of software development and the other containing a series of talks with CEOs and other business leaders.

There were a number of themes within the speakers, one which was on the importance of partnership and leveraging existing and ubiquitous technology in order to grow. Another was the importance of the client, which was emphasised by all speakers. Ian McCrae from Orion Health spoke on how they had "shortened the distance between developer and customer" in order to reduce the fallibility of long communication chains. Another point touched on by the speakers was the importance of the ability to be nimble enough to change while staying true to your purpose.