



Still one of New Zealand's leading IT brands

History

In the true sense of kiwi ingenuity and pioneering spirit, the Eagle family has been a leader in the New Zealand technology sector for over 35 years.

In 1969 Corallie and Trevor Eagle set up punch card bureau, International Data Limited which later became part of Eagle Technology Group. Many will remember the punch card technology of those days along with the mainframe computers which took up a lot of space and required considerable amount of air-conditioning.



The early days with Prime computers.

In the early 1970s Eagle's offerings had expanded to include consulting and educational services, uninterruptible power supplies (UPS), bank security cameras, banking terminals and communications equipment. By 1976 the company was installing ATM technology for banks, networking these machines to mainframe systems.

Eagle also secured New Zealand's sole distributorship for Prime minicomputer systems which form a large part of Eagle's history. The Prime super mini-computer was not mini by our standards today – it was referred to as "mini" because it was a lot smaller than a mainframe but still the size of a fridge!



Chairman of Eagle Technology, Corallie Eagle, in Eagle Technology's Auckland premises.

Keeping up with developments in the IT world was part of Eagle's vision and it wasn't long before the company was supplying mini-computers and linking these between remote offices.

In 1984, with their business activities growing significantly, the Eagles formed Eagle Technology Group which is recognised today as a trusted technology partner to many New Zealand organisations including corporate, local body and government departments.

In 1993 Eagle supplied the technology and expertise for a customised national information system for New Zealand's health sector. The technology formed the cornerstone for New Zealand's health IT structure which is today, considered an international leader.

At the time of his death in late 2000, Trevor was a leader in the information technology industry. This ensured he had the ear of government on issues such as suggested changes to the tax laws relating to research and development investment. Sadly, Trevor was not alive to see the

New Zealand government effect many of the changes he had advocated.

After Trevor's death, son Craig - who had worked in all areas of Eagle - put his own plans aside and for the next two years filled the gap as CEO. In 2003 Chairman Corallie Eagle appointed Gary Langford, formerly the Director of Investment New Zealand, as the new CEO. Other family members -Taryn, Brae, Chanel, Duane and Fleur -have also worked for the company. Duane Eagle, who has been with Eagle Technology for 14 years, is Eagle Technology's Business Development Manager responsible for looking after new business, product innovation and geographical expansion.

Branding

The signature gold eagle which forms the branding for Eagle Technology Group Ltd was, by virtue of name alone, the obvious choice when the company formed in 1984. A graphic design company created the original logo in consultation with Corallie Eagle, who from the beginning has made most of the decisions relating to the company's image and profile in the marketplace.

Corallie's individual style and preference for a look of both quality and endurance has inspired the branding.

As well as the stationery, signage and promotional material, the gold, black and white has extended to the décor in every Eagle office since the business began.

Eagle's current offices, located at the Epsom Stand at Alexandra Park, were refurbished in 2000 under Corallie's management at a cost of more than \$2 million. Crisp white spaces contrast with black and gold quality fittings and marble floors.

Other features include cast iron stairways, superb Corinthian columns and a boardroom table measuring an impressive 6m x 2m to seat 24 people. The boardroom also boasts a cast iron chandelier restored from the original premises.

Many will remember the gold eagle sitting atop Eagle's premises in Auckland's Symonds Street. The building is still commonly referred to as the 'Eagle Technology' building although naming rights lapsed in 2000 when Eagle moved to Alexandra Park.

Racing

The decision to bring Eagle's Auckland head office, Sylvia Park engineering operations and New Horizons Learning Centre into one location was an easy one. However, finding the right location took more than two years.

Within the three units, Eagle had approximately 150 staff and needed a 40,000 square foot site that was centrally located, had truck access and parking for staff and up to 100 New Horizons students. The Epsom Stand at Alexandra Park not only fitted Eagle's requirements but offered parklands, plenty of fresh air, a good choice of cafes and proximity to Auckland's CBD.

Working in such close proximity to a race track coincides with the Eagle's passion for race horses. Corallie Eagle had pre-established horse racing connections and she introduced Trevor to the sport. For more than 15 years the Eagles have not only owned gallopers, but have sponsored the Eagle Technology Counties Cup at Pukekohe Counties Race Day, a race attended by guests and staff from Eagle's Auckland and Wellington offices.

Sponsorship



Trevor Eagle presents the Eagle Technology Bays Swim Cup to Jeremy Gray, winner of the Bays Swim 2000.

While it is well known that Trevor Eagle represented New Zealand in swimming at the 1950 Empire Games, very few New Zealanders know that Corallie Eagle represented Auckland at table tennis. Both Trevor and Corallie's love of sport has been demonstrated in their commitment to sponsor the Iron Man contest in the eighties and more recently, two of the four annual Auckland Central Masters Harbour Swims; the Bay's Swim and the Rangitoto Swim.

Trevor competed in the harbour swims for many years as did sons Brae, Craig and Duane.

Eagle Technology is also committed to supporting local activities through Auckland University of Technology Commerce Faculty, GIS in schools and numerous other community sponsored charities.

Trevor was well known for his support to science, education, community and environmental organisations. He held executive positions including Auckland Area Chairman of the Duke of Edinburgh Awards and trustee of the WWF New Zealand (World Wide Fund for Nature).

Eagle today

Eagle Technology covers a broad spectrum of IT solutions including business applications and system integration solutions, geographical information systems and software development. Eagle represents some of the world's leading software and hardware suppliers such as BST Global, SAP, Epicor, ESRI (Environmental Systems Research Institute), Sun Microsystems, Microsoft, Hewlett Packard, Business Objects, Citrix and Powerware.

In 1985 when privately held consulting firm ESRI was looking for a New Zealand partner, Trevor Eagle was the first to put up his hand. United States based ESRI specialises in developing and applying a core set of application tools designed for computerised land use analysis. These applications are more commonly known as Geographic Information Systems (GIS).

Since 1985, when GIS was run on proprietary mini-computers, Eagle has expanded its range of skills, experience and products to offer end-to-end support for any scale of GIS application.

The company, while standing by its tried and true offerings such as GIS, UPS and enterprise solutions is constantly looking to the future.

Earlier this year Eagle's GIS team developed and launched BizPoint, a geographic information system aimed to assist businesses with workers in the field. This wireless application uses a global positioning system, is web-based and can also incorporate a tracking system.



Trevor Eagle



Trevor Eagle welcomes The Duke of Edinburgh at the Auckland Club in 1995. Left to right: Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh; Sir Douglas Myers; Trevor Eagle.

Another Eagle Technology Group innovation involves its partnership with Worksafe Technologies, bringing to New Zealand a Seismic Mitigation Solution aimed at keeping information technology environments operational, even through a major earthquake.

The New Zealand franchise for New Horizons Learning Centres has been part of the Group since 1994. In early 2004, Eagle extended its IT training line to include Sun training, becoming New Zealand's sole Sun training provider.

In 2000, Eagle Technology established a business relationship with BST Global Inc after securing its first client in Auckland for the BST Enterprise Project and Financial Management solution. In recent years the company has ventured into international markets establishing Eagle Technology Europe Ltd in 2002. Eagle Technology has clients in South Africa, Europe, Asia, Australia and New Zealand.

From Corallie's desk

Information Technology is not only about computers, software or services. It is a combination of all three guided by a vision of how technology can help an organisation to reach its goals. Today, as businesses concentrate on core activities to maintain a competitive edge, they require their information technology department to do even more with less.

Under these circumstances, there is a growing need for well-informed IT professionals.

Eagle has an excellent reputation in the marketplace for delivering expert services and total technology solutions. Customer loyalty is earned, and many of Eagle's customers have been with the company for many years, reflecting a high level of commitment and satisfaction from all parties.

Eagle people are experienced professionals who are continually upgrading their qualifications/certifications and are passionately focused on providing the best solution for their customers.

The company prides itself in understanding its customers' businesses and the ability to add value in assisting them to achieve and maintain their competitive edge.

Due to the diversity of the Eagle expertise, the company offers a combination of innovative and bundled solutions that are not available from any other source in New Zealand.