



CLEAN FINISH

Promac presents Flai Ultra and Z blades, delivering excellent performance results across a range of timbers.

I craft custom-made furniture and run part-time classes in furniture making; with at least 20 different people coming through my workshop each week, my saws get a good workout. So of course, I'm always keen to see how different saws perform. I got hold of three different Flai saw blades from Promac. Two were the Ultra saw blades for the saw benches while the third was a Z blade for my Makita 300mm drop saw.

The two Ultra blades on the saw benches did a great job, leaving really clean finishes of the surface when ripping and crosscutting. The Z blade also left a good finish, which is important, because I'm mainly cutting end grain with the drop saw and I

need good, clean finishes that I can cut joint into and glue up without any more surface treatment. I use a lot of Blackwood, which is notorious for grain chip out on drop saws.

The 60-tooth Z blade, Teflon coated on both sides to stop corrosion and minimise drag, produced less chip out on Blackwood edges than any other blade I have used. It also has anti-kickback shaped teeth for greater safety. Its other features were its noise dampening and expansion slots. The noise dampening slots kept the roar down, making the blade more pleasant to use, and the expansion slots kept the blade true. One other great feature was the flex-resistant design. So much easier

to use, and to produce the desired result, with no flex – especially when taking a small skim off the end of a thicker piece of timber.

Best of all, the Z Saw Blade has a 2.8mm wide kerf, so there is very little timber wastage with each cut. Having given it a good testing on all sorts of timbers, I'm pleased with the Z blade's performance on Huon Pine and Red Cedar as well as harder timber like Jarrah and Blue Gum.

