Weaving together a sustainable future

Dee Poon: Being a child in a family business, it gives you a great deal of perspective on your parents. The sense that you don't only see your parent as a parent, but you're able to see them in a different context, which really builds upon your ability to see that person as a person.

If you work with them and see them in that context, you see them as a much fuller person. It leads to a much greater and richer relationship.

Dee Poon:

I'm Dee Poon. I'm the Managing Director of Brands and Distribution at Esquel. Esquel is a global leading textile and apparel manufacturer that works from seed to shirt.

Marjorie Yang:

I'm Marjorie Yang. I'm Chairman of Esquel Group and I'm also known as Dee's mother. Her title at one stage was COO. Child Of Owner.

Dee Poon:

It took me a long time to work until they gave me a real title.

SUPER: On bringing your passion for sustainability to the family business...

Dee Poon:

In our family we've always just thought we've been engaged with the world, with questions that are more than just 'is this the most profit-maximising way to do something?'

We're always trying to understand how our company can be the fullest type of vehicle for creating a future that we want to live in.

Marjorie Yang:

The key is, our role is not to find solutions for all the problems. Our role is to get everybody interested to find solutions.

SUPER: On how the pandemic has affected your business and mission...

Dee Poon:

One thing I've thought about since the pandemic is this concept of resilience. As a business what did it mean for us to be resilient and to weather through. What allowed us that first ability to reopen factories, to have the trust within our community so that people would come back. So that they would use this mask that we developed, amidst this chaotic environment.

Marjorie Yang:

They say when the going gets tough, the tough get going and we're still in there. We've not given up any of our goals and we feel that we're going to provide a platform for our younger colleagues to stand on our shoulders and take the company from good to great.