

International Women in Engineering Day 2024



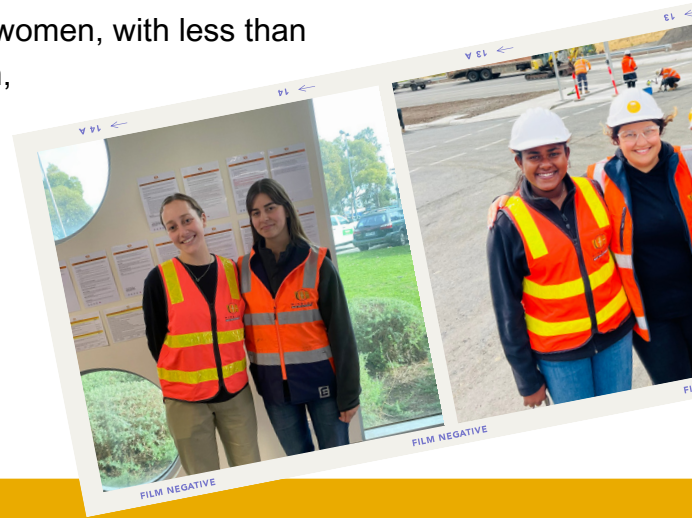
Winslow Infrastructure celebrates our very own “women in engineering!”

International Women in Engineering Day celebrates the work and achievements of female engineers. It provides an important opportunity to raise the profile of women in the field of engineering and highlight the amazing career opportunities available.

Only 14% of the engineering workforce in Australia are women, with less than 23% of engineering graduates in Australia being women, so encouraging girls to look at a career in engineering is critical.

Engineering shapes the world and helps make our planet a better, safer, more innovative, and exciting place to be.

Meet some of our fabulous female engineers!



Ammaila Rashid, Graduate Engineer

What type of engineer are you? And what does a normal day in your job involve?

I am a Civil Engineer, working mostly on roads and bridges. My work starts with understanding the scope of the project, followed by quantity take-off and procurement of material. I have also recently started working on estimating.

What is the best part about being an engineer?

Firstly, the satisfaction of overcoming challenges and finding innovative solutions is the best part about being an engineer. Secondly, I feel so satisfied when my daughter looks at me and says “I want to become an engineer too”.

Have you completed any further study?

After my Bachelor's in Civil Engineering, I also completed an Advance Diploma in Building and Construction.

What would be your advice to young women looking at engineering as a profession?

Engineering is about making a positive impact on society - embrace the opportunity to contribute to solving global challenges and improving people's lives through your work.

What keeps you busy when you're not at work?

I like hanging out with my family, teaching math to my daughters and last but not least, I love working on my baking skills!



Guilia Massimini, Undergraduate Engineer

What are you studying?

I am currently studying a Bachelor of Science, majoring in Civil Engineering Systems. Next year I will start my Masters of Civil Engineering as per the Melbourne Model.

What type of engineer do you want to be? And what job would you be looking to do at the end of your study?

I want to be a Civil Engineer! I'm not sure what exact role I would like to have at the end of my degree, but I know that I would like to have relevant work experience in the field before I graduate so that I know all of the different roles in Civil Engineering.

What made you want to study to become an engineer?

Civil Engineering has always been on my mind since both of my parents studied it at university (that's how they met actually haha). However, I've always been more STEM inclined and near the end of high school I decided that Civil Engineering would be the perfect combination of physics and problem solving!

What is your role at Winslow Infrastructure?

I am an undergraduate engineer! I just started working here recently and I'm part of the estimating / tendering team which has already taught me so much.

What would be your advice to young women looking at engineering as a profession?

If you're interested in the field then go for it!

What keeps you busy when you're not at work?

Aside from uni, I love spending time with my family and friends. There is always an event to attend! Oh and I love collecting Gossip Girl dresses...

Sharanya Jain, Graduate Engineer

What made you want to become an engineer?

I was inspired by my dad who wanted to become an engineer but due to unforeseen circumstances and hardships back in my home country, he was unable to pursue his dreams.

What is the best part about being an engineer?

I love learning new things every day.

Have you done or are you interested in any further study?

I've always wanted to complete my PhD - I hope to do this in the future.

What are your favourite things to do when you're not at work?

I love cooking and trying out new recipes!

What would be your advice to young women looking at engineering as a profession?

Engineering is a dynamic field with constant advancements. Stay curious, keep learning, and be adaptable to new technologies and methodologies.





Emily De Biase, Project Manager

What made you want to be an engineer?

Along with undertaking work experience in high school on a major project, I also had a great mentor in the industry. This enabled me to work with and get to know numerous people who both supported me and guided me through my studies and sparked a genuine passion and interest in the industry.

What is the best part about being an engineer?

Being an engineer has so many rewards and countless opportunities. Seeing projects through from start to finish is really rewarding as well as upgrading and building new infrastructure. Knowing that the work you do on a daily basis makes a difference in other people's lives is pretty amazing. There's also an element of fun when meeting new people and telling them what you do for work, no one ever expects me to say I'm a Civil Engineer!

What has been your career highlight at Winslow Infrastructure?

At this point in time, being involved in two major roads projects and starting a new project in a PM role, being able to challenge myself everyday in a role that is both demanding and constantly changing. It has also been great being a part of the Women of Winslow Mentoring Program and being identified as someone who is capable of supporting and guiding young females entering the industry.

What would be your advice to young women looking at engineering as a profession?

My advice is to keep an open mind when trying to break into the industry. Every opportunity and role is a stepping stone that will give you experience and exposure, which will allow you to progress in your career as other opportunities may arise. The problem solving, processing and networking skills you learn at university

are some of the most important things you will take away from your degree. If you apply these to any position, you are sure to stand out and succeed. Most importantly, enjoy yourself and take on any opportunities to further your knowledge and experience as an engineer.

What keeps you busy when you're not at work?

Celebrating the beautiful chaos of our growing family. Every day is different and it feels like you are always on the go and you can't wait until the very end of the day to put your feet up and relax! I'm sure the next chapter will be even more exciting than the last, and looking forward to creating many more wonderful memories together.





Ifiyenia Papadopoulos, Undergraduate Engineer

What made you want to become an engineer?

Although I was uncertain about which career to pursue while growing up, I always knew I wanted to do something challenging and rewarding. Throughout high school, my favourite subjects were consistently related to maths and science, which led me to choose engineering. Additionally, I was drawn to the versatility of an engineering degree, as it opens numerous career opportunities rather than confining you to a single career.

What is the best part about being an engineer?

The best part about being an engineer is seeing everything come together and contributing to the world around us.

Have you done or are you interested in any further study?

I have yet to complete my double degree in Civil Engineering and Business Management so it would be nice to have a little break from studying for now!

What would be your advice to young women looking at engineering as a profession?

Follow your passion, do what you love and don't let anyone tell you what you can and can't be. Be confident in your abilities and don't be scared! Working in construction isn't as daunting as it seems.

What keeps you busy when you're not at work?

Playing with my cats and dog, cooking and going for a swim.

Mounica Dantuluri, HR Advisor

What made you want to be an engineer?

As a child, I was always captivated by technology and scientific discoveries. This interest, along with an ambition to contribute to the field of science, guided my decision to pursue engineering.

What type of engineer are you, and what other studies have you completed?

I am Biotechnology Engineer, and I have further pursued my Masters in Project Management with a major in Human Resources.

What has been your career highlight in engineering?

I've published a scholarly article regarding the effect of glucose on the proliferation of cancer cells within the human body. The whole research process was profoundly gratifying.

What has been your career highlight at Winslow Infrastructure so far?

The opportunity to contribute to the HR team and make a significant impact within the organisation has been a great experience.

What would be your advice for young women looking at engineering as a profession?

All the young women who have been considering engineering as a profession should embrace their passion for the field and not be discouraged by the stereotypes. Also, seeking out supportive individuals and mentors within the field can be a game-changer.





Dulangi Malwatta, Graduate Engineer

What made you want to be an engineer?

I always wanted a job that would give me something tangible as an outcome. Civil and Environmental Engineering has given me that.

What is the best part about being an engineer?

There is no doubt that engineers create and build the world. They are making people's dreams a reality. Engineers don't need to work in a compacted and fixed frame, they can imagine and make anything extraordinary.

What has been your career highlight at Winslow Infrastructure?

My current role on the Kingsfield Intersection Upgrade, as there is a lot to learn.

What has been your career highlight as an engineer?

My exposure to a wide range of construction types including commercial buildings, residential buildings, roads, and subdivisions.

Have you done or are you interested in any further study?

During my six years of career as a Civil Engineer, I have had the opportunity to work in both Structures and Civil Engineering. I am interested in studying more about the contract and design-related elements of construction next.

What would be your advice to young women looking at engineering as a profession?

I believe that there is no other field where you could find people with such diverse personalities, attitudes, education levels, and cultural backgrounds than in the engineering profession. Engineers create and build the world and also get the rare opportunity to be a part of the crew.

Sindhusri (Sri) Nimmala, Site Engineer

What made you want to be an engineer?

I find constant inspiration in the essential role of infrastructure for community development. This belief led me to choose engineering as the ideal path to contribute significantly to community well-being.

What type of engineer are you? And what do you enjoy most about your job?

As a Site Engineer, what drives me professionally each day is the fulfillment of knowing I've done my job well and played a key role in successfully delivering projects. Witnessing the completion of a project brings genuine joy and satisfaction to my work.

What has been your career highlight at Winslow Infrastructure?

When I look back on the past two years of my journey here, I can see the hard work and team work that's been put into delivering our projects. I can proudly showcase the efforts made by my involvement.

What would be your advice to young women looking at engineering as a profession?

I feel proud and serve as an inspiration to other women in the construction field. "Brace yourself and take the risk."





Gosia Suchorska, Project Director

What made you want to be an engineer?

It was a stroke of luck! During my senior years at school in Poland, I studied environmental science. At uni, I wanted to attend a PE Academy to study Tourism, but failed shot-put which put an end to that ambition. I ended up on a different path with a choice between studying Environmental Science or Civil Engineering - I chose Civil Engineering, which had a strong element of environmental study included.

What has your career progression been so far?

I arrived in Australia in 2003 to learn English and initially studied to become a jockey, as my engineering qualifications were not recognized. I took on various roles in the engineering field, including a draftsman, estimator, and consultant for tunnel boring. I eventually became a Tunnel Methods Engineer for John Holland, working on projects in Australia, Hong Kong, and New Zealand. I was later made redundant and took on a role as an Asset Management Engineer for a local council. I then worked as an Estimator for Fulton Hogan before getting the opportunity to work on a tunnel project and return to on-site engineering work. I later became a Project Manager, Senior Project Manager, and Project Director before transitioning to Winslow Infrastructure for exciting new opportunities.

What has been your career highlight as an engineer?

The one that I am most proud of was working as a site engineer on a complex sewer infrastructure project in Melbourne's north, which involved 13km of tunnel and shafts as deep as 65 meters. It was an amazing opportunity to learn tunnelling techniques from tunnel lining to handling explosives and heavy machinery.

What has been your career highlight at Winslow Infrastructure?

Stepping into my role at Lathams Road was challenging, but it was rewarding to work with the client and team collaboratively to complete the project. Fostering a culture of safety ownership on the project and coming out the other side with a cohesive and supportive team was a proud moment.



What would be your advice to young women looking at engineering as a profession?

If you are passionate about what you do, you will find a way. There are many people who will tell you there are too many barriers or it's too hard, and while it's true that women face a different set of challenges in this industry compared to men, there is a strong movement to get more women into construction, which is supported by the government and great organisations such as NAWIC.

What keeps you busy when you're not at work?

Most of the time, I can be found on our farm. Currently, I am learning how to use an excavator while we work toward rewilding our land. We have bandicoots, potoroos, snakes, and lots of other native animals, and we want to provide a habitat for them to thrive.

