Jessica Seymour

MINESPEC PARTS

"I have always loved how things work and what components make them run."

Summarial stereotypes and proving that women can do anything, Jessica Seymour is a self-taught parts guru, with more than a decade under her belt in dealing with small engines and components before taking a leap into the field of large machinery.

Feeling unfulfilled in an administration role, Jess took the initiative to read literature on engines and parts, researched motorcycle models, studies parts diagrams and engaged with people in the industry to learn as much as she could.

Her move into parts and engines then set the foundation for her as a woman in a heavily male-dominated industry which Jess says has been fundamental in shaping her as both a strong woman and dedicated employee.

"Perceptions and stereotypes will always be there, but I feel the way you present yourself and your ability to do your job will quickly alter any pre-conceived thoughts.

"Minespec Parts are very much in line with gender balanced workforces, heavily supporting Miss Universe Australia and women in industry as a whole, so the team were very accepting when I made the transition to my role. I have grounded myself with customers and have formed great business relationships."

Jessica started with Minespec Parts just over a year ago as a parts salesperson. After 10 years working with small components, it was a calculated risk moving into a new industry, but as someone who likes to upskill, learn and be challenged, the move has been beneficial and rewarding.

She starts her day at 6:30am and is responsible for marketing stock to clients and ensuring their client base has a point of contact for any urgent requirements as well as supporting her boss, Simon Ross and their travelling salesperson, David Jurik, with anything they need while on the road.

She has received high praise from some of Minespec's biggest industry clients.

"When I had first started, I received a compliment for something that I perceived as myself just doing my job. The national manager for used parts at Komatsu, Jeff Barnes, had sent a great compliment of my work ethic which has stuck with me. It reminds me that I am capable of doing my job and I am great at my job.

"Sometimes the littlest things have the biggest impact on a person."

FUN FACT ABOUT JESS

It's a good thing Jess grew up as a self-confessed tomboy, as she has a very real fear of dolls! "I am actually petrified of them to the point where I cannot be in the same room as them or go into the toy section."

Q&A WITH JESS

Who do you look up to as a business mentor?

"My brother, Todd, has been a big inspiration. He has such a positive outlook and has worked hard to create his image and business, Seyspark Electrical. We are both very competitive and strive for success in our chosen fields, but I closely follow him on Instagram to see his projects and finished products."

Any interesting stories behind a tattoo or scar?

I have four tattoos, but a faded scar on my chin tells the most interesting story. As a child, I attempted the superman dive out of the cab of a Mack truck whilst on holiday in Cloncurry and split my chin open. The knee graze scars have been covered by other grazes.