



CIBSE ANZ WOMEN IN ENGINEERING

#INWED23



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CIBSE YEN NSW Committee Member

How did you get your start in Building Services Engineering?

I began as an intern with Arup when I was in my second last year at Uni and have progressed my career in the industry since then to become an electrical engineer.

I enjoy my work because of how dynamic and challenging the role is. I have gotten the opportunity to work on a wide variety of projects from small lab fit-outs to hyperscale data centers; each bringing its own challenges and experiences. Since my start I have never had two days that are similar which suits me very well and more than likely in another ten years, I will continue to have more challenges despite all the experience.

Tell us a little bit about your job.


I primarily work on the design of a buildings' electrical systems. As a design engineer, I enjoy taking a blank sheet of paper and crafting a system that both meets the client's requirements and is the best engineering solution for that particular building. This may surprise some of you, but each main switchboard in a building is a custom-built piece of equipment that is developed to serve a specific building's needs.

Whilst I enjoy doing design, I quite enjoy stepping away from the office to go on site as well where I get to see the limitations of my design or practical solutions to problems that arise on site. Some sites can be in the city itself just a walk from the office, or in the regions where we can make it a day trip or a weekend trip. Most excitingly, my role has opened up opportunities to work overseas through international placements as well.

Engineering after all, does not vary significantly across different countries.

What do you love about your job?

People and projects are the highlights of my role. I get to work on a wide variety of projects; some of which are iconic buildings like the Western Sydney Airport and some of which are buildings that are not easily accessible like data centers.



Every building also has a large multidisciplinary team behind their design, from architects, contractors to other design engineers. It is fantastic to meet and work with people who are specialized in a wide variety of skills towards a common goal that once built is a tangible place we can explore in person.

What is the biggest impact you hope to have in engineering through your work?

This maybe cliché, but like most other young engineers I am interested in doing my part in terms of sustainability and climate change. Even if I cannot do a whole lot in one go, I can help one step at a time. A few tasks I have done in this regard so far include specifying cradle2cradle light fittings where appropriate, sizing a PV system to provide an energy offset, providing electrification options to phase out gas in a building and exploring a potential generator less data center scheme. I feel as if I am uniquely positioned to make a real impact in this regard through my work.

Why do you volunteer on a CIBSE committee?

I work as part of the CIBSE YEN executive committee. I enjoy working with other like-minded professionals in my team to inform/inspire others in our industry. For example, this year, I organized two events; the CIBSE YEA Awards Past panelist and a site visit to 388 George Street. This year CIBSE has been focused on embodied carbon as a topic and both the events highlighted integrating embodied carbon conscious design into building services.

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