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Role: Heavy Diesel Fitter Trainer

Company: BUMA Australia

Home location: Brisbane

Work location: Blackwater

How long have you worked in the resources industry?

I began my apprenticeship in 1988 working on mining equipment in Brisbane and have worked in the industry since.

What do you enjoy most about your job?

I enjoy meeting people and helping them succeed in their job role with new skills and making their daily tasks easier to achieve. Also enjoy working with my BUMA training team members and helping each other.

What's something people wouldn't expect about your role?

The planning, compliance checks and all the paperwork that needs to be completed for all training authorisations and I also complete other job tasks when required.

Where do you live and what do you love about your community?

I live in Brisbane and grew up playing rugby union. I enjoy catching up with my mates at the same rugby club I played at for many years and seeing familiar faces at home. It's a longstanding community with a close sense of togetherness and support and has many activities to do and see. Blackwater is a community I also love spending time at, I enjoy attending the local events and meeting the local people who are very welcoming.

What drew you to the industry and what's kept you here?

I came to the industry for financial security for my family and long-term employment and career progression. The people I work with have kept me here. Being away from home for seven days, we all support, help and look out for each other which creates a very positive work environment and is why we have been so successful at Blackwater Mine achieving our goals for the company and maintaining our professionalism. The camp accommodation is fantastic with great food and makes my stay in Blackwater very comfortable.

What does a typical day look like?

My typical day starts at camp 4am with breakfast and making my lunch and finishes back at camp at 6pm. I travel to site each day and start with our safe start meeting and catching up with maintenance supervisors to discuss what training is required or checking current competencies coming up for renewal. I also complete site inductions when required. Sometimes it also might involve me helping with operating Franna crane, Integrated Tool, Forklifts, etc or helping out with maintenance down days in the field.

Why do you think the resources sector matters to Queensland?

The resources sector is vital to Queensland's economic success. It provides employment to people of all backgrounds and contributes greatly to major infrastructure projects domestically and overseas. Backing the sector is incredibly important for the ongoing health of our state and the local community. I am proud to work for a company which backs local sporting clubs, youth programs and health facilities in localities around Blackwater Mine.

What are you passionate about inside or outside of work?

I am passionate about my training job role and keeping our workplace presentable. Outside of work I like spending time with family, going to the football (Brisbane Broncos and Queensland Reds), live music, the beach, boating, fishing, Ford cars and old trucks. Other interests include, making furniture from driftwood, a small banksia garden I attend to and occasionally trying different beers.

What's something you're proud of professionally or personally?

I am proud to be part of the HSET team at BUMA and I am very fortunate for the opportunities given to me. I am also proud to be part of the PCYC Braking The Cycle Program in Blackwater as a BUMA mentor, helping youth in achieving their driver's licence. Also, I'm personally proud of my three children furthering their education at university.

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