

Meet Emma Fabre

A Senior Technician with UTech, currently working on the redevelopment of Griffith Base Hospital.



In support of the NSW Government's Hard Work Knows No Gender awareness campaign, we sat down with Emma to find out why she is pursuing a career in construction and what she enjoys about working on site.

What are your qualifications, Emma?

I am a qualified Robotics Engineer. In Australia I am currently working as a Fire Protection Technician and Electrical Assistant.

Please describe your current job?

I am installing and certifying fire rating products.

What's the best part of your job?

I get a real sense of achievement from taking on independent tasks and seeing the final product. I've added many hands-on skills to my design training through this role.

What's the most challenging part of your job?

Problem-solving – finding ways to apply fire rating systems to non-typical situations in often awkward or hard-to-access locations.

What sparked your interest in a construction career?

I had worked on hospital builds in France, so I was pleased to find construction opportunities in the same industry while travelling abroad.

What skills and attributes do you need for your role?

Readiness for the physicality of the work. Creative thinking. Attention to detail. Patience. Respect for safe work practices.

For those interested in doing work experience in the construction industry – what would you recommend?

Just take in as much information as possible!

Your advice for those considering a career in construction?

Don't be afraid to try it out – construction can be a fulfilling work choice.

What are the things good construction employers do?

1. Provide equal opportunities for all workers on site
2. Provide equal pay
3. Take positive steps towards inclusiveness

How important is diversity to the experiences on site?

Our team places a high level of importance on equal opportunity and we find this leads to more positive attitudes, and higher levels of engagement. Breadth of experience provides different ways of approaching tasks and this also creates efficiencies on site.

What's changing to make construction an industry-of-choice for women?

There is now active encouragement and support from employers towards their female workforce which is great. As more women enter the industry, it is creating a more welcoming image and environment, and this is creating a bigger, more diverse pool of workers.