







Industry Training Hubs are funded by the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment

## **TEACHER RESOURCE**

# Careers in the Regional Rail and Construction Industry

A collaboration between ACCE, ITH, RPV and Coleman Rail



### Meet The People



leashya Chapman Civil Construction Trainee Protech

**Cert III in Civil Construction** 

https://youtu.be/p6hsy\_hjlRE

#### 1. Where did leashya's career journey begin?

A: leashya's career journey began in Year 11 when she started working at McDonald's. After school she worked in hospitality.

2. What employability skills might laeshya have acquired in her previous work roles that may help her in this industry? You can search for a list of employability skills online.

A: Communication, team work, problem solving, initiative and enterprise, planning and organising, self-management, learning skills, and technology.

3. Use <u>www.myskills.gov.au</u> to find providers of leashya's certificate course in your region.



### Meet The People



### **Raymond Scott-McGee**

Civil Construction Protech

Traineeship

https://youtu.be/qMoZEgGDCRk

----

1. What is Raymond's position and what project is he working on?

A: Raymond is a trainee working on the Shepparton Line Upgrade.

2. Use <u>Australian Apprenticeship Pathways</u> to find out the difference between an apprenticeship and a traineeship.

A: From www.aapathways.com.au/about/australian-apprenticeships – Apprenticeships and traineeships are both types of Australian Apprenticeships. They combine work and study.



### Meet The People



Jazmin Britt Site Administrator Trainee Coleman Rail

Traineeship - Cert IV in Business Administration

https://youtu.be/B8-TamlatNM

#### 1. What are some of Jazmin's typical daily tasks?

A: Check emails, visit sites, check in with workers on site, collect dockets, gather information to compile a report for management.

- 2. What does Jazmin say are the best parts of her job?
- A: Every day is different and Jazmin loves being able to meet new people.
- 3. What advice does Jazmin have for young people starting work?
- A: Jazmin says the most important thing is to have an open mind and be willing to learn new skills.





### Meet The People



Rylea Demerlo

Civil Construction Protech

Traineeship

https://youtu.be/3YuRH33miwY

#### 1. What project is Rylea working on as part of her traineeship?

A: Shepparton Line Upgrade.

2. Use <u>Victoria's Big Build</u> to find out which stage of the project is completed and what comes next.

A: From https://bigbuild.vic.gov.au/projects/shepparton-line-upgrade as of 02.06.2022 – Stage 1 is complete with Stages 2 and 3 in progress. A new stabling facility is scheduled next.

#### 3. What are some of the requirements Rylea mentioned for her job?

A: Rylea says that you will need to be physically fit as there are many manual tasks. You also need to be constantly attentive as it is such a safety focussed industry.









Callum Saron Civil Construction Protech

Traineeship

https://youtu.be/Srf1dsHuk2g

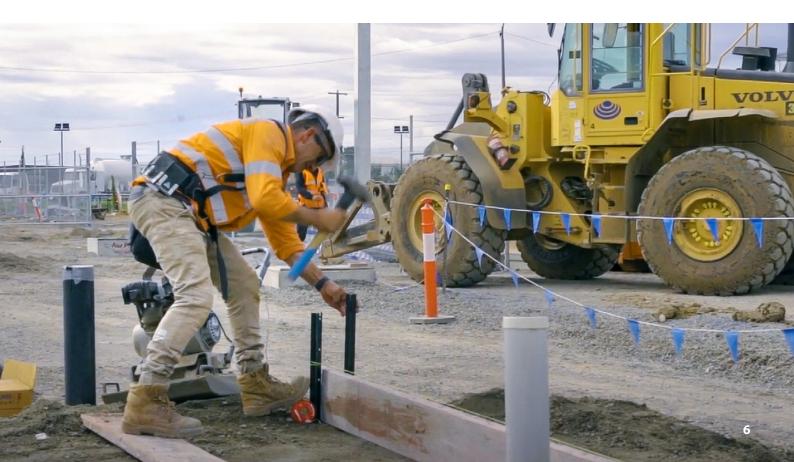


A. Certificate III in Civil Construction.

2. Use <u>www.myskills.gov.au</u> to find out the average salary for someone who has completed this certificate.
A. \$55,300 - The middle of the range of salaries earned by graduates in the Engineering and Related Technologies field starting their first ever full-time job after graduating (Certificate III).

3. What are some of Callum's typical daily tasks?

A. Concreting, boxing, manual labour, CSR – connecting wires and conduits.



## Case Study 1



**Coral Irvine** Regional Manager V-Line

Management Diploma Program Training and Assessment Certificate

I've been working with V/line for 20 years and I've been in my current role for 10 months. I was recommended by my mentor to apply for this current role. But it was also a 'what's next' moment... I had undertaken a job that I was conversant with in a new region and the challenges were limiting.

I went to 6 secondary schools and was a lazy student but I had a lot going on in my life then. At one stage I wanted to be a Prison Officer, but back then you needed to be 25...so I was a bit directionless. After school I applied for a trainee manager role at Kmart and was successful. I moved regularly during that time in my life and this gave me the ability to be able to adjust to different people and locations.

I started my career with V/line as a part time Conductor. I then moved through different roles including a full time Conductor, part time Station Officer, full time safeworking Station Officer, Station Manager, Senior Service Manager, Area Service Manager and now to Regional Manager. I enjoy change and challenges.

Day to day I can be talking to stakeholders, budgeting, leading my team or promoting the region. The role is diverse and on any given day my plans will change and I will adapt to those changes. In my role, we are responsible for all aspects of the customer operations for the region and leading our teams, working towards consistency for the state.

I love that I am in a position to contribute to the future of the region, to promote consistent (fair and equitable) work practices ensuring that everyone is heard and development opportunities are not overlooked. What would I change? I am not sure I would change anything except to say – to sit in the role you have, to constantly question how you view everything, what you can do better, what team members add to your journey and what is happening elsewhere in the state, in the country and globally that might help a process.

In my role it is important to have great communication and curiosity - always questioning "why?".

There are endless opportunities in public transport - embrace these opportunities as this sector is constantly evolving and adapting. Be bold. Believe in yourself. Be prepared to sit in positions of discomfort at times in your life, it's where your greatest growth and learning comes from.

#### 1. What were the career progression steps Coral has taken to get to her current job?

A: Conductor, Station Officer, Station Manager, Area Service Manager and Regional Manager.

#### 2. What are Coral's day to day duties in her current role?

A: Talking to stakeholders, budgeting, leading her team or promoting the region.

#### 3. How does Coral see that the many moves she experienced during adolescence helped her?

A: She has the ability to adjust to different people and locations.

#### 4. What about Coral's career interests you? Why?

Student reflective answer.

### **Case Study 2**



Olivia Nesci Graduate Civil Engineer

**Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering** 

I have always been fascinated by, and drawn to, major infrastructure projects that impact our wider community. Being a part of building projects which will change the way people use transport, roads and rail is quite rewarding, and has always excited me.

At school I was a diligent student who worked hard and was quite study focused. When I was in Year 10 I had no idea what I wanted to do and found it a little bit overwhelming. All I knew was I enjoyed studying science and maths in school and I seemed to excel in those subjects. It wasn't until I was encouraged by my maths teacher to participate in engineering related work experience, that I then knew what engineering was. After finishing Year 12, I went straight into a bachelor's degree in engineering.

In my job, I assist senior engineers in resolving issues experienced in the development phase of the Warrnambool Line Upgrade, which have to be solved before construction commences. This project scope involves making changes to upgrade the train track and signalling infrastructure along the line, so that we can run the new VLocity trains on the corridor (to replace the old fleet of trains).

I am most proud of my involvement in the development of the occupation crossings scope. I was responsible for working with V/Line to determine which private crossings should be upgraded, closed and gated; so that we could provide a solution which ensures safety for train drivers and the public using the crossing. Throughout this process I had to collect data on the usage of crossings, and work with landowners, train drivers and other engineers to determine which solution is most appropriate. Since we are now introducing new trains which run at higher speeds, safety risks to the public are increased and so we had to assess how we were going to eliminate these new risks.

Essential skills for my role are: Thinking creatively, Strengths in maths and science, being able to problem solve, analytical skills, communication skills, show initiative and the ability to adapt to and respond to change quickly.

I suggest that you try different things, be willing to learn and get undergraduate experience while you are still studying at uni to help you work out what stream of engineering you can visualise yourself working in – engineering is a very broad and diverse field with a vast variety of roles; from working on site to an office job, there are many opportunities.

#### 1. How did Olivia become aware of engineering as an occupation?

A: Her Year 10 maths teacher encouraged her to do work experience in this field.

#### 2. What skills are necessary for Oliva's job?

A: Thinking creatively, strengths in maths and science, being able to problem solve, analytical skills, communication skills, show initiative and the ability to adapt and respond to change quickly.

#### 3. What is Olivia most proud of in her current role?

A: She has the ability to adjust to different people and locations.

#### 4. What is your understanding of what an engineer does?

Student reflective answer.

## **Case Study 3**



Fariha Chowdhury Civil Engineering Cadet Rail Projects Victoria

**Civil Engineering Cadet** 

Introducing Fariha, a Civil Engineering Cadet working on the Bendigo and Echuca Line Upgrade.

A working day for Fariha can entail updating project materials, preparing report updates, attending meetings, and working with various stakeholders. These roles have contributed to her developing a deeper understanding of the various stages of rail infrastructure projects.

Fariha's career ambitions in the construction and infrastructure industry include gaining experience across numerous rail projects, civil engineering disciplines and progressing to leadership roles, in addition to her long-term goal to become an entrepreneur.

As a woman of Asian descent, Fariha is passionate about breaking down social stigmas, and wants to be a change catalyst of negative misconceptions associated with people working in the construction industry to help them achieve their ambitions, regardless of gender or race.

"I want to create a positive impact and empower women. The future of women in the industry is optimistic and every day, my belief gets stronger that I can do more, add value and continue to explore the field of infrastructure development as an engineer".

#### 1. What are the day-to-day activities involved in Fariha's role?

A: Updating project materials, preparing report updates, attending meetings, and working with various stakeholders.

#### 2. What are Fariha's work goals and ambitions?

A: Gaining experience across numerous rail projects, civil engineering disciplines and progressing to leadership roles.

#### 3. What types of skills do you think would be required for Fariha's job?

A: Technical skills, problem-solving and decision-making skills, written and oral communication skills, leadership skills, maths, science and IT skills.

#### 4. See if you can find other types of engineering cadetships available to you in rail and construction.

- A: Rail Signalling Engineering Cadet
  - Civil Drafter Cadet
  - Building Cadet
  - Design Engineering Cadet
  - Surveyor Cadet.





Hamse Mohamed Safety Trainee Protech for Coleman Rail

I applied for this job because I've always been interested to one day give safety a go. I've been working in this role for 11 months now. I don't have any formal qualifications, I completed year 12.

Day to day my duties include:

- · Investigations of incidents on site
- weekly site safety walks
- · Sub-contractor audits on site
- Report writing
- Updating safety dashboard
- Distributing PPE on site.

School was great for me and I was a determined student. From Year 10, I wanted to be an electrician, as I've always been interested in learning about conduction. I previously worked in the civil construction industry and that was the main reason that led me to work in the role I am in right now.

I love the support I'm getting from the team and the company, I feel very well supported in my role. I've finally found a job that I enjoy and can wake up happy to go to work. The Rail industry is a great industry, there is a lot of opportunity for people looking for a career and various types of roles.

The skills that are important for my role are: organisation, communication and teamwork.

Safety is very important in a construction site. All the procedures and rules we have are not to annoy people, they are there to make sure workers up on site go home to their loved ones and to me it is the best job in the world. In the future I'd like to become a senior safety adviser.

#### 1. Why is safety so important in Hamse's opinion?

A: So workers can go home to their families at the end of each day.

#### 2. What qualifications does Hamse have?

A: None, he completed Year 12.

#### 3. What interest sparked Hamse's career direction?

A: The desire to learn about conduction and wanting to become and electrician.

#### 4. Can you imagine yourself in a safety officer role? Why or why not?

A: Student reflective response.

## **Case Study 5**



**Darren Lapthorne** Regional Manager – North V/Line **Commerce/Business Degree** 

I wasn't the smartest or best performing student at school. It took me 15 years following high school to really commit and decide what profession I wanted to focus on. Sport was by far my best subject. In Year 10, I wanted to be a professional cyclist or work in business.

I followed my passion and became a professional athlete (cycling). I completed 1 year at Uni (commerce/business degree) before I had the opportunity to ride for a German professional cycling team. I deferred my Uni degree and left for Europe where I spent the next 12 years.

Retiring at 32 years old, I applied for a position at V/Line as I always had an interest in regional based transport/business. I was successful for a Station Assistant role and have pursued all opportunities that opened up to me within V/Line.

I hold an International Baccalaureate and multiple diplomas and short course certificates that relate to my current role which V/Line has supported me to complete.

I applied for my current role to gain experience in a number of roles at V/Line including acting in the role for 12 months when we were short staffed. I've been in this role for 6 years and I was previously a Services Manager, Conductor and Station officer. Day to day I am leading a team of 80 team members, focusing on regional strategy, finance, operations and planning, customer service, risk assessments, committee chairing.

My major responsibilities are:

- Safety of my team and V/Line customers across Northern Victoria
- Operating V/Line services as efficiently and customer focused as possible
- Creating an inclusive and motivated workplace culture where team members are encouraged to contribute to ideas and initiatives.

I love the impact my position has on contributing to the public, our customers and my team, and engaging with the community. Every day brings new and unexpected challenges and I like that this job is regionally based in Bendigo. The skills needed for this role are: reliability, resilience, optimism, being a team player, a calm demeanour and motivation.

In this industry there are amazing opportunities to be involved in a growing industry. There are a huge variety of jobs available – driving, conductor, asset/ganger, management, customer experience roles. There's something for everyone!

#### 1. What did Darren do instead of finishing his commerce degree?

A: Became a professional cyclist in Germany for 12 years.

#### 2. What is the International Baccalaureate?

A: It is an alternate Senior Years program offered in some schools and can be completed instead of VCE.

#### 3. What skills does Darren need for his current role?

A: Reliability, resilience, optimism, being a team player, a calm demeanour and motivation.

## 4. Can you imagine leading a team of 80 people? Write an example of a time when you may have led a team of people.

Student reflective response.



## **Online Interactive Quiz**

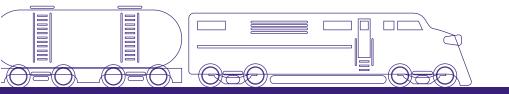
### Click here to start the quiz:

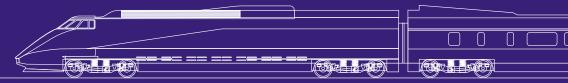
https://quiz.tryinteract.com/#/62844e49da65d20018931c95

- How much has the Australian and Victorian government invested in the Regional Rail Revival program?
- A: \$4 BILLION
- How many people does the rail and construction industry employ in private and public companies? A: 50,000
- By how much is employment expected to grow? A: 4.9% until 2026
- How many different employment qualifications are there across the rail industry? A: 22
- What 'in school' VET Certificate would you need to study to become a Railway Signal Operator? A: Certificate II in Rail Infrastructure
- What percentage of regional rail travel is for going to work? A: 58%



Industry Training Hubs are funded by the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment







#### Australian Centre for Career Education

T/As Career Education Association of Victoria

Building A 61 Civic Drive, Greensborough, VIC 3088 Ph: 03 9433 8000 www.ceav.vic.edu.au

