Women in Mining



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How would you describe your experience as a woman working in the coal industry?

- It is challenging and rewarding at the same time. I was a single mom when I got into mining. I needed to support myself and my children.
- I had familiarity with the industry because my family has been in coal mining for a long time.
- I enjoy running the equipment and providing energy for our country. I appreciate working with my co-workers and being given the opportunity to advance my career at the mine.
- I am also glad I am able to save money and have the opportunity to go on trips and do nice things because of my career.

Do you think the coal sector should be placing more emphasis on hiring women?

- As a whole, I believe the coal industry should emphasize hiring more women. There are some mining roles that I believe women where can bring specific value. With proper training, women can perform many of the jobs, such as driving a haul truck, that have traditionally been performed by men.
- You have to have the right mindset to get the job done. You have to work hard and prove that you are capable of doing the job well.

What are some of the benefits of more diverse workplaces?

- Through a more diverse workplace, you get more ideas, thoughts and perspectives. Having more diversity in thought leads to improved problem solving. That is especially important at a mine site, when it comes to safety and a variety of operational issues. Diversity results in more creative solutions to problems.
- The challenge is to prove yourself and show that you can do the job well. You have to have a positive attitude and strong work ethic. If you do a good job and treat others with respect, you will receive the same from others.

What would you say to women considering a career in coal mining?

- Working in coal mining, you know you work hard and you provide a good living for yourself and your family. I am proud of what I do and am thankful for my job.
- If a woman is questioning whether she can do the job, I'd say she can if she puts her mind to it.

Peabody