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2023 Women in Construction: Christine Muilenburg, Newmark

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Christine Muilenburg
Project Manager

Newmark

What was your greatest professional achievement or most notable project in the last 12 months? I am fortunate to have many notable achievements throughout my career, beginning as a project engineer on a \$50 million ground-up animal disease research lab in Brookings, SD, to my first job as a project manager on a 113,000 s/f therapeutics fit out in Waltham, MA. Overall, I am most proud of my professional transition to Boston, quickly immersing myself in the construction industry here and flourishing in the chaos this industry is known for.

What made you interested in seeking a career in the AEC industry? From the time I could walk, I was visiting residential jobsites with my dad, who at the time, was a general contractor building custom homes. A love for residential construction was something my whole family shared, constantly driving through new neighborhoods to check out the progress. It was not until college, when I pursued a degree in construction management, that I realized how rewarding the tangible aspect of construction is—driving my interest for a career in project management. This was one of the best decisions I ever made!

How are you involved in community organizations and/or charities? My largest volunteer contribution every year is in support of thousands of athletes involved in Special Olympics MA. I recently completed my second year of fundraising and plunging in the annual polar plunge, as well as volunteering in the summer games at Harvard College. In addition to Special Olympics events, I have also volunteered for other local programs including shelter beautification with Heading Home, meal delivery for Ellie Fund, and donating to local charities like Outward Bound and Cradles to Crayons.

What tips or advice would you offer to other women who are considering entering the construction industry? The construction industry is progressing, the phrase “it’s been this way for 20 years” is no longer applicable. You do not have to fit in with your peers to make it in this industry anymore, you can be who you are and do what works best for you. It can be intimidating, so find someone you trust and ask them as many questions as possible. Most importantly, be confident in your knowledge and use your voice.

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