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2025 Ones To Watch - Rising Stars: Erin Vautour, South Coast Improvement Company

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Erin Vautour
Project Manager
South Coast Improvement Company

“Erin Vautour has been with South Coast Improvement Company (SCIC) for three years and has excelled in multiple roles. Starting as an APM, her communication skills, attention to detail, and efficiency made her stand out. As Portfolio Manager, she managed over 20 projects in one year,

implementing procedures that now serve as the blueprint for CAPEX- type projects. Promoted to PM, she led one of our largest projects to date – delivering success and directly impacting the company's growth.” - Matthew Smyth, General Superintendent at South Coast Improvement Company.

What's one challenge you've overcome in your career so far, and what did it teach you? One of my biggest challenges was stepping into the construction world with no prior experience in the field. After landing my first job at a GC firm, I had to learn everything from the ground up. Over the past 13 years, I've done just that. I empowered myself by taking advantage of every opportunity related to furthering my industry knowledge. I went back to school for my CAD certification and earned credentials like Procore and OSHA. It's been a meaningful challenge that's shown me learning never stops, and growth is a lifelong pursuit.

If you could give advice to someone just starting out in your field, what would it be? My advice to someone just starting in my field would be to take the time to learn your role and then push yourself to go beyond it. Understand your company, the policies, and the processes. Get to know your coworkers, ask questions, and find mentors in roles you aspire to. And don't get discouraged by mistakes – they're part of the journey. Success doesn't happen overnight, nor can it be rushed, so celebrate the small wins along the way.

What recent professional milestone or project are you most proud of, and why? I'm most proud of my recent promotion to Project Manager (PM). Having worked in the industry for 10+ years, I've worked long and hard to get here putting in the hours, tackling every challenge, and constantly pushing myself to grow. In my past 3 years at SCIC, I've taken the lead on nearly every project within our affordable housing sector ensuring each one runs smoothly, efficiently and safely, contributing over \$30 million in revenue. My recent promotion is a testament to the dedication I've invested in my career. It's fueled my motivation to keep learning and reaching for the next level.

Who has played a pivotal role in your development, and how have they influenced you? A former colleague and mentor of mine who I worked with for over six years had the biggest impact on my career. He taught me the ins and outs of construction, the industry, and life lessons that went far beyond the job. As a newcomer, he created a space where I could learn, grow, and build confidence. I could count on his support within every facet of my professional and broader life. His guidance shaped my career, and I know I wouldn't be where I am today without it.

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