

MY STORY

WOMEN IN POWERED ACCESS

KATRINE AURORA BALLE

INSTRUCTOR & TRAINING MANAGER, RIWAL, DENMARK

IPAF's Women in Powered Access initiative invites women of all ages in a variety of professional roles to share their inspiring stories, to help showcase and celebrate the opportunities our industry offers.

What is your role in powered access?

I am an IPAF Instructor/Examiner and a Training Manager for Riwal Denmark.

How did you come into the industry and what attracted you to it?

I was studying for a masters in maritime archaeology, and trained as a commercial diver, then I was headhunted to become an instructor for safety training, including work in the wind energy industry. I find that I tend to be very alert on safety matters, which helps me in the way I view potential safety risks. Pre-empting comes very natural to me and so does assessing risks and finding solutions to mitigate/eliminate these. I think many women possess this ability and it is in high demand in our world. I like the fact that this industry gives me the opportunity to utilise my natural skills of pre-empting risky situations and my love of communication and education to improve the safe working environment of others.

What do you find inspiring about your role?

I believe education is key to a healthy and striving society. For me, providing people with education and seeking to raise their competencies, as well as moving their boundaries, is central to why I love being in this setting. I have always gravitated towards jobs that happened to be in male-dominated industries, and sought to move boundaries for myself and other women too; this is what I find inspiring about my role in this industry.

Where do you see yourself in five years, and what do you want to achieve?

I want to keep being part of creating a culture where everybody is equal no matter gender or ethnicity: Making sure that our industry is welcoming to all who have something to offer, and that women no longer need to prove themselves in more ways than their male counterparts. I don't believe that the minority



should have to prove themselves good enough to work in a given industry, I believe the industry should prove itself good enough so that minorities would want to work in it.

What advice would you give to other women in/thinking of entering the industry?

Know your strengths, be proud and believe you have something to offer. Bring your expectations into your work. When you communicate your exceptions of yourself and towards others, they have a bigger chance of being fulfilled. Speak your mind. Be the change you want to see in others.

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