

WOMEN

In Business

PRESENTING SPONSOR:



Alisa Duntap

Pacific Power



HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN IN YOUR LINE OF WORK AND WHAT GOT *you* STARTED?

"I've been in the energy industry for 13 years. And prior to that I was in the healthcare industry. I was seeking a change and to expand my knowledge of a different issue area, expand my knowledge of Oregon.

And **Pacific Power** was really interesting to me as a three state utility. Little did I know they're actually a six state utility with service area across the West. And I just found the energy industry really fascinating. Something that is an essential service much like health care and I'm just excited to continue growing my knowledge, it feels like it grows every day."

WHAT IS A CHALLENGE *you* HAVE HAD TO OVERCOME?

"I feel like there's a lot of challenges being a woman, in really any industry, but I feel like especially a male dominated industry. I'd say one of the bigger challenges was and is having the confidence to say that I belong at the table. To have the confidence to say that an idea I have is worth sharing.

Now I think that I'm further along in my career, I think that challenge still exists but a new challenge is having to say no to commitments to protect the ability to say yes to others. When I say 'yes' I want to say it with my full being. This is an ongoing challenge of when to say yes or no, I'm so fortunate that I'm asked to do be involve in so many worthwhile endeavors. I feel very honored to have those opportunities, but it's important for me to make sure that I'm saying yes and being able to give it my all."

AS WOMEN WE OFTEN DON'T BRAG ABOUT OURSELVES. TELL ME SOMETHING YOU'VE DONE THAT *you* ARE PROUD OF.

"I'll name two. I did an Ironman which involves 2.4 miles of swimming 112 miles of biking and a marathon. I've always been one who's been interested in athletics and I've dabbled in all sorts of sports throughout my life. But the Ironman was this sort of Enigma thing that I never thought I would be able to do. I'm a stronger swimmer, not a super strong biker and at that point, I had some experience in running and had run a couple of marathons. But the idea of putting all of that together was kind of mind boggling. And then, about six months before that race, I broke my foot. And then I had some complications rehabbing that injury. Coming back to finishing and finishing well, was a real accomplishment.

The Ironman set me up with additional confidence and a renewed sense of perseverance in my life. The second thing I'm really proud of, is being considered for the role I currently have at Pacific Power. I'm not sure I'd have this job without having finished that race. Something inside me really broke open to say, "Wow, if I put my mind to something and I persevere, I can accomplish a whole lot of things." Being in a place where I can do this job, I can accomplish things and I can do it in my own way. I don't necessarily have to fall into footsteps of the people before me, I can learn from their wisdom and then take it in a new direction. And I'm really proud of what I've been able to do in this role."

WHAT IS ONE THING YOU WISH YOU COULD TEACH ALL YOUNG women?

"I've thought a lot about this. Over the years, I've been fortunate to have mentoring opportunities and the one piece of advice that I've always tried to give young women is to not damper their ambition. Whatever it is that they're excited about, whatever it is that they feel passionate about, that they want to pursue, they should do it.

They should find people in their lives to support them and to dream big. I know that's a bit of a cliché statement, but it really is true. If you're really excited about something and you feel passionate about it. Find the people that can support you to go after that. Don't damper those ambitions, go for it."

WHO INSPIRES YOU AND WHAT DRIVES *you?*

"I find inspiration from a lot of different avenues of life. I could quote, prominent Women in Business, I could quote local leaders, I could think about some of my family members, and they all inspire me in different ways. I look at who I'm inspired by or what I'm inspired by, and I think about how that can drive me to continue to give my all and to continue to give my best.

A lot changed about five years ago when I had my daughter and I think about her as a source of inspiration and wanting to make sure that that she has the best opportunities that she can and that she is supported in dreaming big. That she does think what excites her and has the support to go after those dreams. I think she not only drives me and motivates me, but she also inspires me, children around her age are inquisitive and so curious about life and that really inspires me every day to be curious which motivates me to continuing growing everyday as a self, a mother, an employee, a friend and a community member."

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"Advice for women? Go for it. Do your thing. Don't hold back" - Lori Lum

"Be strong, yet willing to take chances" - Julie Lum