

Graduate Profile



Ramanjit Kaur

Asso. Project Manager

Stream: IT – 2008

Degree: Bachelor of Information Technology

Position prior to Grad Program: Service Supervisor – Supermarkets

1. What would be your key achievement to date / proudest moment on the program?

One of the proudest moments was receiving an invitation to attend a networking session with the Woolworths Chief Information Officer (CIO) in recognition of my efforts over a year. This was an excellent opportunity to share innovative ideas and network with the highly experienced and skilled individuals within the IT. Apart from this, during the program I got a number of opportunities to manage various complex and challenging tasks in different rotations that not only proved how much trust and confidence managers have in young talent but also makes you feel proud of accomplishing those tasks successfully and inspire you to keep learning and growing.

2. What personal and professional skills have you developed since joining the program?

The structured formal training and development courses focusing on personal development, leadership skills, time & task management, presentation skills, managing change, business writing, project management and many more designed as part of the Woolworths Graduate program embarked me on a journey of personal and professional growth. Applying the key learning's from these courses help me to be innovative in managing my day to day activities and be effective.

3. Who are some of the key people you have had exposure to / worked with?

It was one of the key highlights for me when Michael Luscombe (Woolworths CEO) joined us for lunch in the very first week of the program. Also I had several opportunities to meet and present the project updates to the Chief Information Officer and the BIG W IT Controller who were key sponsors for the IT graduates project. Apart from this, there were numerous networking sessions throughout the program to hear and seek advice from the highly skilled and experienced senior managers. It's a great feeling knowing that the senior management takes that much interest in developing the young talent. Talking to these people really inspired me to dream big and to work hard to accomplish my goals.

4. How would you describe the culture and working environment within your area of work (i.e. team spirit, work ethics, working independently / as a team)?

The culture is diverse and the company strongly supports this culture where employee differences are valued and respected. The working environment is very inspiring, supportive and team work is great. The line managers and team members are approachable and friendly. They take a keen interest in your development and can be relied upon whenever you need an advice. So be open to feedback and show your willingness to learn and I am sure everyone around you will give you a helping hand.

5. What have you learnt about Woolworths Limited and your Division that you did not previously know?

When I started working at the Norwest Support Office, I was quite surprised to find out how big the Woolworths IT team is! Also the IT environment is quite dynamic and challenging which continuously motivates you to expand your knowledge and skills. Another great thing to know was that each month is dedicated to one specific charity event and the whole team actively participates in raising funds which sends out a message of a strong community spirit.

6. Do you have a mentor / coach? How have they supported you through the program so far?

Yes, I have a great mentor/s. These mentor/s have played an important role in my personal and professional growth. Being relocated from Melbourne, these people have always provided me support, advice and encouragement. They have helped me to realise my full potential and boosted my confidence to undertake challenging tasks.

7. Describe what the program has looked like so far (Key responsibilities/ tasks/ projects that you have completed / had exposure to)

I completed 6 rotations (4 months each) in different areas of IT. I started with IT Program Office where I was given the responsibility to simplify the IT induction process and worked on the database conversion project. Then I moved on to Service Support Improvement team which is one of the IT's crucial areas that provide metrics and reporting to the management on the daily operations of IT Helpdesk and its services. In this team I had an opportunity to work on rebuilding the team sites and assisted the team in exploring and implementing the ideas to provide quicker and efficient service to our customers. Then I moved on to Stores Development team where I worked hard along with other team members in delivering 2 store releases to different divisions of our business. In this area I had the best opportunity to practise and expand my technical skills. Finally I rotated to the Customer Engagement team where I was given the role of a Program Coordinator. I worked on the multiple projects related to the Everyday Rewards program that delivers rewarding shopping experience to our customers. I also got well trained on the SAP system from the project management point of view. The knowledge and experience that I gained in these rotations helped me immensely to advance my career in Woolworths and it will continue to reap results in the future.

8. What advice would you give others considering applying for the program? Who would you recommend the program to (i.e. what type of person would be suitable)

Based on my experience, I strongly believe that there can't be a better platform to kick start your career in IT other than the Woolworths IT Graduate Program. If you are passionate about retail and IT, enjoy challenges and have passion to learn and grow then I am sure applying for the Woolworths Graduate program is the best decision you will ever make. This program has the potential to lead you to a rewarding career where the sky's the limit!