

Graduate Profile – Andrew Pietruschka

Stream: Information Technology – BIG W
Program Intake: 2008
Degree: Bachelor of Information Systems
Position Prior to Graduate Role: Product Specialist DSE



- 1. Why did you select to apply to the Woolworths Graduate Program?**
The Woolworths Graduate Program gave me the unique opportunity to develop my career in IT while leveraging my understanding of the retail environment gained during my time at stores. I also had the comfort of knowing I was working for a company that supports its employees.
- 2. What personal and professional skills have you developed since joining the program?**
The program focuses on developing a range of business and leadership skills including presentation techniques, managing change, business writing and project management. I've also participated in technical IT courses relevant to my roles.
- 3. What would be your key achievement to date / proudest moment on the program?**
This would be when I was given the responsibility to rollout and implement an upgrade to one of the IT systems at over 150 Big W stores and the trust of my managers to allow me to run the project from start to finish.
- 4. Who are some of the key people you have had exposure to / worked with?**
As an IT graduate I've had the opportunity to work with the Big W Business & Technology Controller, the CIO of Woolworths and members of the Big W management committee. I've also had exposure to members of the Senior Management Group including the CEO.
- 5. How would you describe the culture and working environment within your area of work?**
There is a great community within the office; people take a genuine interest in your work and how they can help improve and develop your skills. Everyone is very approachable and willing to help you reach your goals.
- 6. Describe what the program has looked like so far.**
I have completed three rotations including Data Warehouse Development, Infrastructure Support and Development. I've worked on projects including upgrading IT hardware, implementing new infrastructure and most recently working on our Data Warehouse enhancing the information we have about how we operate the business.
- 7. What advice would you give others considering applying for the program? Who would you recommend the program to?**
The program provides invaluable insight into how our business operates and gives you exposure that you wouldn't normally receive. If you're willing to be challenged and adapt to new situations then the program has the potential to accelerate your career in Woolworths.