

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN IN ENGINEERING DAY 2026

Celebrating the women who are helping shape the future of infrastructure, sustainability and engineering across Australia, New Zealand and around the world.



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Engineering is a human endeavour-shaping how we live, move, connect and respond to the world around us-and we are designing that future right now. The best solutions come from bringing diverse experiences and ways of thinking together, so what we create reflects the communities we're designing for; and if we want more women in engineering, we need to keep showing that this profession is about creativity, impact and shaping the future, not just maths. As more women help shape our industry, we're not just changing who is at the table-we're strengthening our ability to create thoughtful, balanced solutions that better serve people and communities.



Amanda Yeates

Principal | Roads and Streets
Business Lead ANZ
Arup



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As a woman in engineering, I've had the opportunity to work on projects that shape how people move, connect and experience their communities. It's a career that combines technical problem-solving with real-world impact, and that's incredibly rewarding. A key part of my role is challenging long-held assumptions about how we design for people, making sure our approaches reflect the diverse needs of the communities we serve. Bringing different perspectives to the table leads to better, more considered outcomes. It's also been encouraging to see more women stepping into leadership roles across our sector. That visibility matters. It helps build confidence, opens pathways for others, and reinforces that there's a place for women at every level of engineering. I'm proud to be part of a profession that is continuing to evolve, and I hope we keep creating an environment where the next generation feels supported, confident and excited to help shape the future of infrastructure and our communities.



Aimee Wescombe

Manager Transport - TAS
GHD



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As an engineer I love being able to use passion, ability and smarts to make a positive impact for our community, whether in transport, education, high tech, construction, roads, advanced manufacturing, water, energy, disaster recovery, indigenous communities , we make things happen. INWED celebrates the amazing engineering women, and their impact in the profession as leaders and part of the engineering tribe. I have especially appreciated those engineering elders, leaders (mostly male) and peers who have supported my journey and challenged me to do more. My grandfather and father are engineers and my son is studying engineering. Engineering is such an awesome profession and I want to champion more women to be part of the engineering tribe.



Madeleine McManus OAM

Chair
Yarra Trams



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At its core, engineering is a creative profession. Sure, it takes analytical thinking and grit to work a problem, but at the heart of engineering sits the desire to create something better for this world. The more diverse the inputs to this creative and problem-solving process, the richer the solution and the more positive the outcomes for our communities. In celebrating Women in Engineering Day, we honour the trailblazers who have opened doors and broke down barriers for all of us and we celebrate the ensuing richness in diversity, in all its forms, it brought to our industry and the positive impact this had on the outcomes for our world.



Mia Barnard

Sector Director - Highways ANZ
AECOM



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To me, being an engineer is not about the projects or industries, but rather the way we understand the context, recognise underlying influences, and solve the right problem with appropriate solutions. Engineering is strengthened by gender diversity which provides different perspectives and lived experience.



Suzanne Walker

IS Quality Controller
Infrastructure Sustainability Council



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Engineering to me is the thought process and intent that enables us to make daily lives better. I believe that every person is affected in some way by the engineering industry. It is important for women to contribute to such sector which creates the world around them. Women bring in diverse perspectives and exhibit remarkable resilience in this male-dominated sector, driving innovation and enabling more inclusive, collaborative solutions to problems.



Siri Chandana Lella

IS Project Coordinator
Infrastructure Sustainability Council



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For me, being an engineer is about making a meaningful impact on the world around us. Working in infrastructure sustainability allows me to help influence projects that create long-term value for people, communities, and the environment. As women, we bring different experiences and perspectives to the table, and increasing our representation in engineering helps build a more inclusive, innovative, and sustainable future.



Dr Sneha Kaira

IS Quality Controller
Infrastructure Sustainability Council

