A DAY IN THE LIFE
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Describe the main responsibilities of your role:

My role focuses around identifying opportunities for process improvements through data analysis. This includes spend analysis, development of baselines for savings calculations, RFx evaluation and benchmarking.

I’m also involved in developing presentation packs for proposals, sourcing strategies and high level implementation plans.

How does your average day start?

My average day starts at the gym followed by breakfast. Once at the client’s site we (my team and I) review the project plan and priorities tasks for the day as well as the rest of the week. When this is confirmed, we are all ready to make it happen!

What is your favourite part of your job?

Going through the proposals and findings in workshops, presenting high quality reports and delivering new insights to the client.

What is the most fulfilling part of your role?

The most fulfilling part is to see clients’ amazement at the issues they weren’t aware of and then accepting our proposals for improvement opportunities.

What is the most difficult part of your job?

Having to pay close attention to detail 100% of the time, trying to be as efficient as possible while keeping work at the highest quality and dealing with the stress both of these cause.

What do you feel are the key skills needed to be successful in your role?

Attention to detail, excellent analytical skills coupled with creativity. Being a quick learner also helps and stakeholder management is vital.
How and why did you get started in the profession?

As most of the procurement professionals in Australia, I started to work in procurement by accident. I had the opportunity to be a student intern at the Procurement Department of the University of Sydney. A couple of months into the role I realised that procurement had everything I wanted for my career and that I had already developed some of the skills required.

Are you a CIPS member and if so and how has CIPS helped you in your career?

Yes, I am a CIPS member and also a member of the NSW committee. By being a member, I have assisted in the running of numerous networking events. These have allowed me to meet and be in contact with experienced professionals and recruiters. These events have also allowed me to learn about the best and most innovative procurement practices.

By being a CIPS member I have also assisted training sessions which have enhanced my knowledge on this subject.

What advice would you give someone who wants to progress to your position?

Regardless the career path you choose, I have always thought that believing that what you do will have a great impact on the organisation, and ultimately the world, is the key to being passionate and eager to learn and grow.

What do you think the next step in your career will be?

I would like to move to the corporate/client side and get to implement the initiatives I propose. It’d be great to be able to manage and see the results after all the hard work!