

MY STORY

WOMEN IN POWERED ACCESS

MICHELLE LONG

MANAGING DIRECTOR, THE UK TOOL HIRE GROUP

IPAF's Women in Powered Access initiative invites women of all ages in a variety of professional roles to share their inspiring stories, to help showcase and celebrate the opportunities our industry offers.

What is your role in powered access?

Managing director of The UK Tool Hire Group.

How did you come into the industry and what attracted you to it?

I was working in a telesales office selling for multiple different companies and redundancies were on the cards, so I contacted Loxam, which was one of the companies we were working on behalf of, just to see if they had any vacancies. I did not completely understand the industry at this point.

What do you find inspiring about your role?

I have a huge passion for powered access, and now I get to oversee training and tool hire too; I love how all of our divisions come together. I thrive on mentoring and coaching others and, as the managing director role is rather complex, I am enjoying learning so many different angles of the business.

Where do you see yourself in five years, and what do you want to achieve?

I hope to still be in my role and delivering success.

What advice would you give to other women in/thinking of entering the industry? No two days are the same in the access industry, so days are always diverse and often challenging. When I joined the industry there were very few women, but the numbers are increasing! I do believe before long it will no longer be male-dominated, as women are just as capable as men in any role within the industry. We just need to keep proving it!

“No two days are the same in the access industry.”

