



Press Release

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Back to work for Swansea mum

A Swansea woman is climbing her way to the top of the traditionally male career ladder thanks to an innovative course designed to help women break into non-traditional work environments.

With the digital TV switchover starting in less than six months, mum of two Angela Rees has already made sure that she is ahead of the game by equipping herself with the skills to help thousands of homes across south Wales move from analogue to digital.

The single mum of twin boys decided to try her hand in a traditionally male dominated industry as a way to get back into full time employment and enrolled on a taster course in Satellite and Digital Aerial Installation at Swansea College as part of Chwarae Teg's Ready SET Go initiative, part-financed by European Structural Funds, Careers Wales and Welsh Assembly Government which covered 13 local authorities in the Objective One areas of Wales.

From there Angela completed a more in depth course in Electronics and Digital Aerials at the College and has recently started an apprenticeship with Elite Aerials of Swansea.

Angela said: "The taster sessions meant that I didn't have to commit to a full time course and could fit in learning around my seven year old sons' school needs.

"My friend found the information on the taster course and knowing I was keen to get back into full time work, it seemed to be the first step I needed to get back on the career ladder.

As an installations engineer, Angela's role will include the installation of digital and satellite aerials as well as the repairing and maintenance of cabling sky, free view and TV aerials.

Angela explained how the course not only equipped her with basic electronics and aerial knowledge needed, but also prepared her for the world of work.

“Chwarae Teg was able to provide me with career advice and further training options even before I finished the taster session. I’m now working with Elite Aerials as a trainee installations engineer working on commercial and residential contracts across the whole of south Wales.”

The introduction to Basic Electronics – Digital Installation course at Swansea College was one of 30 short courses delivered by the Ready SET Go project, which worked in partnership with colleges, businesses and training providers.

The three-year programme has helped more than 300 women gain an insight into traditionally male dominated industries.

Bev Pold, business development manager at Chwarae Teg said: “The Ready, SET, Go (RSG) project proved to be an excellent way of getting women to consider alternative careers, and tackle wider gender stereotyping at work.

“It really did offer something for everyone from an introduction to construction skills, motor maintenance and firefighting, to conservation, carpentry and digital photography. Angela is an excellent example of what we wanted to achieve through the RSG project, she attended the Basic Electronics – Digital Installations course, then furthered her training and is now in employment.”

For more information about Chwarae Teg’s programmes that support, develop and expand the role of women in the Welsh economy, visit www.chwaraeteg.com.

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About Ready SET Go

Chwarae Teg was established in 1992 to support, develop and expand the role of women in the Welsh economy and has undertaken a number of projects which have directly assisted women in the areas of enterprise, employment and learning. The Ready SET Go project was managed by Chwarae Teg, part-funded by Welsh Assembly Government, Careers Wales and ESF (European Social Fund) and covered 13 local authorities in the Objective One area of Wales.