



More than Words from Women in BICSI

“Hard Work and Passion Makes Dreams Come True”

By Joey Cheng, RCDD, RTPM

Information and communications technology (ICT) is embedded in all aspects of our lives, providing us with newer, faster, and better ways to communicate, collaborate, and access information. Back in 2000, when I started my journey in the ICT industry as a female in a male-dominated industry, there were not many opportunities for women wanting to advance their career in this realm. In my mind, I wondered, “What could be the optimal route for passionate female ICT individuals, and where could we access the knowledge and opportunities to take our skills and work quality to the next level?”

Succeeding as a woman in this industry turned out to be a long and challenging road for me. After working diligently for years, I started my first company as a structured cabling provider. I gained my experience through rigorous training and hands-on experience, eventually enhancing my skills to become an ICT integrator. From the Open Systems Interconnection (OSI) model’s physical layer 1 to the highest application layer 7, I involved myself in all aspects of ICT to keep growing and improving in my role.

My passion for ICT, a hunger to learn as much as possible, and my goal of becoming a full-fledged ICT designer and project manager drove me to achieve great things in this industry. After many years of hard work and sacrifice, I became the first Malaysian woman with the globally recognized certification of Registered Communications Distribution Designer (RCDD). In real-life deployments, project management tools, and techniques are

imperative to ensuring that all projects are completed on time, efficiently and at minimum cost. In recognition of that fact, I also acquired my Registered Telecommunications Project Manager (RTPM) credential. Equipped with these two prestigious BICSI credentials under my belt, I hope to make Malaysia proud and represent my country on the world stage as one with highly skilled ICT professionals that embrace BICSI standards and best practices.

With first-hand knowledge about the limitations and struggles of becoming a female ICT professional, I envision establishing an ICT Learning Academy to help more women in the industry achieve professional recognition. In this endeavour, I am reaching out to the Malaysia ICT community to make others aware of and learn about the benefits of getting involved with BICSI. I am also promoting BICSI’s educational opportunities that can lead to acquiring prestigious credentials, as well as the value of using BICSI’s ICT methods manuals and standards to enhance one’s profession. I, myself, as BICSI Malaysia Vice Chair, will continue to promote BICSI as the preeminent resource for the connected world. I hope other women around the world in the ICT industry will join me in this undertaking.

Share Your Story with Women in BICSI

We want to hear from women in the ICT industry. Please consider submitting your brief story, anecdote, or advice for a future “More than Words” column. Email to wib@bicsi.org.

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