

Local News

Female miners link up to boost sector

FEMALE miners working in Central Queensland's vast resource sector can now benefit from the industry's first dedicated virtual mentoring program.

And Emma Woolward couldn't be happier about it.

Launched yesterday by The Australian Women in Resources Alliance (AWRA), the AWRA e-mentoring program is connecting experienced mining, oil and gas professionals with women in the earlier stages of their careers.

This innovative online portal is delivered by resource industry employer group AMMA with support from the Australian Government under the National Resource Sector Workforce Strategy.

Emma, who runs Yeppoon-based mining service company Skilled Fabrications, said the program was exactly what was needed to get more women into the industry.

She said now was a good time to let people know the industry still offered a bright future for women.

AMMA director of group services Tara Diamond said the first round of e-mentoring partnerships had com-

menced, with both men and women mentors providing guidance to women seeking to further their resources careers.

"The AWRA e-Mentoring Program is a key part of AWRA's wider strategy to increase the participation of women in resource jobs from the current 15.2% to 25% by 2020," Ms Diamond said.

"The remote locations and non-traditional work schedules typical of Australia's diverse resource industry often make it difficult for career-driven women to connect with experienced industry mentors.

"The program now delivers this mentoring opportunity through a structured, supportive online portal."



WOMEN PUSH: Emma Woolward looks forward to seeing more women working at Central Queensland's mine sites.

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