

## Case Study: Sharon Page upskills for job security

**E** VERY few weeks, Sharon Page makes her way to Perth Airport to commence a journey to the West Australian Pilbara town of Onslow.

As she steps off the plane, she prepares for the next two weeks in her new role as a site security officer on the \$32 billion Wheatstone liquefied natural gas construction project.

It's a dream job for Page, who is one of a group of successful participants in an AMMA Skills Connect initiative to provide Indigenous people training and employment opportunities in Australia's resource industry.

With previous experience in catering, cleaning and utility services at a worker accommodation village, Page viewed the opportunity to obtain a Certificate II in Security Operations as a pathway to sustainable employment in a constantly evolving sector.

"Sometimes when the project demands aren't as intense, the workload declines so I thought I should get some additional skills," she says.

*"Upskilling gives you an edge on the job market. I'm a bit older than the young chaps in the program so I'm glad there are opportunities like this to gain new qualifications."*

### Sharon Page

As one of the star trainees, she was the first to begin employment with Indigenous mine security operator Tri-Shield Services, which come on board to help secure full-time roles for all program participants.

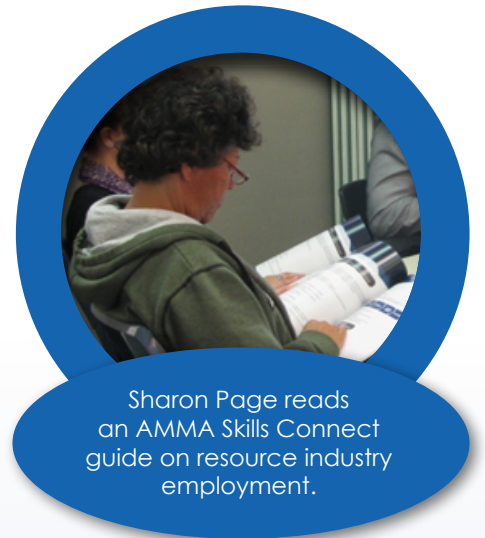
"I thought the program was really well presented and the security training specifically was excellent," says Page.

"It's good to know that there are organisations out there supporting Indigenous people."

As just one example of what can be achieved with industry and government collaborate to support Indigenous training and employment, Page is now confidently putting her new skills into practice.

"It is a very interesting role because along with the standard security procedures, you need to be able to communicate well and solve a range of problems," she says.

"I'm enjoying interacting with people on site and hope to keep expanding my skills."



Sharon Page reads an AMMA Skills Connect guide on resource industry employment.

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Under the four-week government-funded training program, Page and her fellow participants engaged with the resource industry professionals AMMA Skills Connect and Indigenous employment agency Access Working Careers to learn about everything from the FIFO lifestyle through to security procedures, crowd control, communication skills and first aid.

## > Get involved today

To learn more about AMMA Skills Connect, visit [www.amma.org.au](http://www.amma.org.au) or call **1800 627 771**.

This project is supported by the Australian Government through the National Resources Sector Workforce Strategy