



RMD  
KWIKFORM

# CELEBRATING 90 YEARS OF ALTRAD RMD KWIKFORM:



## A TRIBUTE TO OUR LONG SERVING EMPLOYEES – JULIE MAHAL

Altrad RMD Kwikform is proud to be celebrating its 90th anniversary this year - a milestone that offers a moment to reflect on the people who have driven the company's growth and evolution over the past nine decades.

Behind every successful project, every innovative solution, and every satisfied customer stands a dedicated team whose talent, passion, and hard work have shaped Altrad RMD Kwikform into the company it is today.

One such individual is Julie Mahal, UK Sales Support Manager, who has been part of the company for 38 years. Julie shares her experience of her time so far at Altrad RMD Kwikform - from being part of a Youth Training Scheme to seeing first hand technological advances in the industry.

### Julie's journey

"My career started when the company was known as GKN Kwikform through the Youth Training Scheme (YTS), an initiative that gave young people hands on work experience alongside day release at college. I joined as an admin trainee in Coventry, spending time learning the ropes while working on my administration certificate. After three months, a position became available and I jumped at the chance. At this time, we were focused on contract scaffolding (tube and fitting), evolving later to hire & sales of builders plant, Kwikstage Scaffolding and general access equipment. After a few years, our Coventry branch closed, and the company offered me a new role at head office. I initially thought I'd try it for three months due to the distance, just to see how it went. Now, nearly two decades later I'm still here, the best decision I ever made!"

"As UK Sales Support Manager, my role is very diverse. No day is the same. If you need something, people know that they can come to me and my team, and what I love about us is that we all have a 'can do' attitude. I think that's why I still enjoy my role so much, because it's never the same mundane tasks every day. We keep the wheels oiled and turning, making sure the Directors, sales and all the team have everything they need to do the amazing work that they do."

### Moments to remember

"Looking back over the years, my favourite memories are always about the people. I've had the privilege of working with some great colleagues and have been fortunate enough to meet many customers also. I still get calls from colleagues / customers I met decades ago, and it's great to have that connection, it's like no time has passed. That's what makes RMD different, there's a real sense of camaraderie and loyalty."

"One of my proudest achievements was becoming a Branch Manager in what was, at the time, a very male dominated industry. There weren't many women in leadership roles back then, so it was a big moment for me. Over the years, I've taken on challenging projects, learned new skills and had the opportunity to mentor others, which has been incredibly rewarding."

### The evolution of the business

"The company has changed so much since I first started. I remember the days of typing letters, collecting cash from the bank and counting money for wage packets, lots of filing and nowadays we are paperless, have mobiles, AI and advanced software that makes our jobs so much more efficient."

"Since COVID, remote working has also been a bit of a game changer as it's helped me find a better work life balance, while still keeping up with the fast pace of my role. It's also been nice to see more of a focus on employee well-being, both mentally and physically. I'm part of our Women in Work group, a mental health first aider, and I help where I can on the charity days we run as a business, these are all things that I'm passionate about and proud that RMD are actively putting forward."

### Why long service?

"Quite simply, it's because this company has always supported me and I work with some amazing people. My managers have been fantastic and that's why I've stayed loyal. I feel like they genuinely care about their staff, whether it's supporting career growth, providing training or making sure that we have the right work-life balance."

"Some advice that I would give myself if I were to go back to my first day would be, always look for new ways to learn new things as the more you know, the more opportunities you'll have. Don't just do what's expected of you, go beyond, take on challenges, push yourself and you'll go far. My final piece of advice would be, write everything down, if it isn't written it doesn't exist!"

"As I reflect on my 38 years here, I feel incredibly proud of how far RMD have come, evolving and growing while always staying true to its people. And as for me? Well, I don't see myself going anywhere, I can definitely see myself retiring from here."