

W O M E N I N T E C H

Q & A

Marisol Granados

Business System Specialist

How long have you worked at CompuCom?

I have been working at CompuCom since 2012. During this period I left the company for 7 months because I was looking for a better opportunity. But, those few months were enough to realize our job is important but we need to grow in a company where you can find a balance between work and life. I decided to come back because CompuCom is committed to providing environments that support a work-life balance for their associates. Therefore, I am so grateful for the second chance.

What is a 'day in the life' like in your role?

Before beginning my day, I take a few minutes to set an intention. I ask myself "what I want to achieve today?" This exercise gives me a goal to follow. Because some colleagues work in different time zones, I have to prioritize the different activities and meetings, and I cannot lose sight of my goals. I have had to learn to delegate and ask for help. Involving my team in any activities and getting different points of view helps us improve processes and add value to the daily activities and projects. At the end of my day, I evaluate if the goals were achieved. If it was not possible, I need to be sure to make significant progress on it. This helps me feel that my day was productive.

What sparked your interest in choosing technology as a career?

When I was 10 years old, my uncle gave me my first computer. It was the 286 IBM and I was super excited about the things I could do



AN IT PROFESSIONAL HAS
TO LEARN SOMETHING NEW
EVERY DAY. THERE ARE NO
EXAMS, NO DEADLINES. ONLY
PURE SATISFACTION AND
CURIOSITY ARE ANSWERED.



WOMEN IN TECH



through a monitor. At the same time, my uncle also bought the NES console. I spent hours of my life playing Duck Hunt, and one day I was so curious about how an external device such as the gun could handle an object inside the TV (shoot down the ducks). It triggered my curiosity about technology. That day I knew what I wanted to do for the rest of my life.

What advice would you give to young professionals starting in tech?

Enjoy the process. Technology has many areas, and when we are beginning our career we want to learn everything. There is a ton of information and sometimes this can be overwhelming. When you enjoy the process, you will reach your goal the best way.

Self-learning: Knowledge is never enough. An IT professional has to learn something new every day. There are no exams, no deadlines. Only pure satisfaction and curiosity are answered.

Do you feel the shift to remote work has been more difficult for women?

Yes, if you are a mother you need to take care of the family, children, and housework in addition to your job. It's no secret that mothers still carry most of the burden of childcare and domestic work in most families, but on the other hand, remote work helps to be more productive and spend quality time with your family. It all depends on how time is managed.

What traits do you need to be a great leader?

The ability to empower others and generate enthusiasm. Great leaders are always thinking about how they can build confidence and potential capacity to execute the goals of the people around them.

What's your biggest success or greatest learning opportunity?

When my baby was born. He had several health issues. He was in the hospital for months. I had to be resilient enough to split my personal life and my job. Although my team supported me I had to avoid negative impacts on the projects I was in charge of.

I managed to make my job a motivational activity that allowed me to restore my mind and my spirit. The projects delivered during this time were successful.

IT'S NO SECRET THAT
MOTHERS STILL CARRY
MOST OF THE BURDEN
OF CHILDCARE AND
DOMESTIC WORK IN
MOST FAMILIES, BUT
ON THE OTHER HAND,
REMOTE WORK HELPS TO
BE MORE PRODUCTIVE
AND SPEND QUALITY
TIME WITH YOUR FAMILY.