WOMEN IN TECH
Q&A

Jessica Cobo Parton
Service Delivery Manager

What is your specific job?
I'm currently a CSD for an account in the Southeast region. However, I started out as a Service Desk agent and have had many jobs within CompuCom, each giving me more challenges in the 7 years I've been with the company.

What does a 'day in the life' look like in your role?
I like to start my day quite early in the morning (my brain tends to shut down later on in the evening!) and I start by double-checking my calendar to make sure the activities and goals for the day that I've planned can be achieved. My role requires me to work closely with members of my team, who come from several different CompuCom towers. Throughout the day, I constantly have contact with the customer. I run reports to produce data and analysis for the customer, and coordinate with members from other areas of CompuCom to put the big picture together for the customer. And I try to stay one step ahead of the customer and provide them with solutions to potential problems.

What sparked your interest in choosing technology as a career?
I didn't! I actually studied Philosophy and French at university and decided to apply for CompuCom because of the linguistical aspect more than the technological one. However, I quickly realized that I loved the job, the company, and everything I was learning. Seven years later I'm still here and feel very grateful for the uninformed decision the younger me took.

DON'T LISTEN TO THE STEREOTYPE: CHALLENGE IT.

How can women make sure their voices are heard?
Let's not be shy, but let's also carefully think about what we want to express and more importantly how we want to say it so that we are loud and clear in our message.

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What are the ways that CompuCom empowers you as a woman in tech?

In Mexico, we've really seen a big change in the last few years; not to say that there wasn't support then, but there's more focus on it now. I think the fact that we have a space specifically for women, our Women in Technology Affinity Resource Group, shows that CompuCom really is empowering us. We have a forum where our voices can be heard. There are activities, talks, and courses aimed at women for us to be able to better our professional and personal lives.

What top skills do you believe are needed to thrive in a career in technology?

Self-motivation, organization, and a thirst for learning and innovating.

Imposter syndrome is very common for young professionals, often doubting their abilities and shying away from accomplishments. If a young woman asked you, "How do I know that I'm good enough to sit at the table?" what would you tell her?

I'd tell her that it's important to stop comparing yourself to others; your work should stand out by itself and not in relation to someone else's. Ask yourself, would you stop reaching for more just because you've reached the same level as everyone around you? Of course not! However, always remember to reflect on your day and the actions you took: was that decision the right one, was the way you said something the best way to do so, what could you have done differently to have a better outcome?

What is one trait you need to be a great leader?

Compassion.

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

Don't listen to the stereotype: challenge it. There are also lots of different areas in tech. Take the time to learn and to figure out which one you want to be part of. It might even not exist yet and that's really exciting. The best part about being in tech is that it's ever-evolving and new ideas are always welcome.

> IT'S IMPORTANT TO STOP COMPARING YOURSELF TO OTHERS; YOUR WORK SHOULD STAND OUT BY ITSELF AND NOT IN RELATION TO SOMEONE ELSE'S. ASK YOURSELF, WOULD YOU STOP REACHING FOR MORE JUST BECAUSE YOU'VE REACHED THE SAME LEVEL AS EVERYONE AROUND YOU? OF COURSE NOT!