

Influential Women Showcases Gwen Rosegay: Setting A New Standard For Leadership In Print Finishing And Manufacturing

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A Career Built on Resilience, Technical
Expertise, and the Determination to Prove
What Is Possible

Fullerton, California – Gwen Rosegay has built an accomplished career across operations, manufacturing, sales, distribution, and print finishing, bringing more than 15 years of industry experience to her current role as General Manager of Trillium Finishing. With a hands-on approach to leadership, Gwen oversees day-to-day operations, financial management, purchasing, customer relations, and business development while helping clients navigate the technical demands of the print graphics sector.



Her professional journey is defined by adaptability and persistence. Before entering the manufacturing industry, Gwen spent 15 years working as a federal courtroom deputy in Chicago. A transition into sales eventually led her toward medical sales and, later, the industrial manufacturing space, where she discovered an environment in which technical knowledge, customer relationships, and determination could make a lasting difference.

Gwen joined D&K Group in inside sales and steadily progressed into the position of area manager, becoming the first woman in the company's more than 70-year history to hold that role. She continued developing her industry expertise through her work with Polymershapes and its PolymerFilms division, gaining deeper knowledge of adhesives, laminates, and print-finishing technologies.

Today, Gwen applies that experience directly to her work at Trillium Finishing. Rather than

viewing her role as simply supplying products, she has made it a priority to understand the chemistry and application of lamination films so she can provide meaningful guidance to customers. Her technical mastery has allowed her to become a consultant and resource for businesses seeking solutions that meet their specific needs.

Gwen attributes her success to being hungry and never accepting no. Early in her career, she encountered customers who doubted whether she would last in a traditionally male-dominated industry. Instead of allowing those assumptions to discourage her, she treated them as a challenge. She committed herself to learning everything she could, proactively seeking out knowledgeable people within the industry and building the technical understanding necessary to provide exceptional customer service.

That approach ultimately changed the way customers viewed her. People who initially questioned her ability became surprised by the depth of her knowledge and encouraged by her willingness to help. By consistently demonstrating her capabilities, Gwen strengthened relationships and established herself as a trusted resource.

The challenges she has faced have also shaped her perspective on perseverance and identity. Reflecting on her career after watching the film *Barbie*, Gwen connected strongly with America Ferrera's monologue about the experiences women encounter throughout their lives. She recognized how much she had overcome and reflected on the realization that, despite those challenges, she remained standing strong.

For Gwen, remaining authentic is equally important to professional success. The best career advice she has received is to keep being herself. She believes it can be easy to become caught up in the noise and expectations surrounding a career and to lose sight of one's own identity. Staying true to oneself and maintaining personal integrity, she believes, can provide a stronger foundation for professional and personal growth.

Gwen carries that philosophy into her mentorship of women entering the print-finishing and manufacturing industries. She encourages young professionals to learn as much as possible, including both the technical aspects of products and their practical applications. Developing that knowledge allows women to speak confidently with customers, offer informed guidance, and establish credibility through expertise.

She also encourages women not to allow stereotypes or early self-doubt to determine what they can accomplish. Persistence, continued learning, and a willingness to demonstrate capability can help professionals establish themselves even when they enter environments where they may initially feel out of place.

Representation remains an important part of Gwen's own experience. She has frequently found herself as the only woman in the room, including during one presentation attended by 14 men and one woman—Gwen. While those situations can be intimidating, she has learned that

knowledge and strength are essential to being heard. Her experience has reinforced her belief that women can succeed in industries where they have historically been underrepresented.

Her journey has also carried meaning beyond her professional accomplishments. Gwen sees her career as an example for her children, demonstrating that determination and commitment can help people pursue goals that may initially seem difficult or unconventional.

Resilience and determination remain central values in both Gwen's professional and personal life. They help her navigate challenges while keeping her focused on long-term goals. At the same time, family provides an important source of grounding and influences many of the decisions she makes.

Gwen also believes strongly in sharing and celebrating women's accomplishments. Making women's contributions visible can help recognize the work they have already accomplished while providing encouragement and inspiration for those coming next. Through her leadership, technical expertise, mentorship, and willingness to challenge expectations, Gwen Rosegay continues to demonstrate what persistence, knowledge, and authenticity can accomplish in print finishing and manufacturing.

Learn More about Gwen Rosegay:

Through her Influential Women profile: <https://influentialwomen.com/connect/gwen-rosegay>

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