FIRST NATIONS
VETERAN EMPLOYMENT CAMPAIGN

CASE STUDY:

SETH CARTER



Seth Carter is a Wiradjuri man based in Perth, Western Australia (WA). Seth joined the Australian Defence Force (ADF) in 2016 at 26 years old as a marine technician and was discharged in January 2023. For Seth, one of the challenges of leaving the ADF was finding work that matched his skills and interests.

While looking for a suitable career, Seth found himself job hopping around different trades and industries, until he ended up working for a contracting company doing marine engineering. He eventually moved back to Perth to work as a refrigeration mechanic, which then led to his current role working as a motorman on an offshore oil rig. Seth found that the work he was engaged to do on the rig was comparable to the work he did in the Royal Australian Navy (RAN).

Seth has found enjoyment and satisfaction in his new career. In his role, Seth can work on vastly different jobs ranging from diesel generators, sewerage plants, to fixing shower heads. No day is the same, and Seth enjoys the variety.

Seth has translated many of the skills he acquired through the ADF into civilian employment. These include skills like punctuality, working efficiently under pressure and keeping to tight schedules with minimal resources. One of the most important traits Seth identified he gained from his time in the ADF, is initiative. Seth recognises how important it is to have the confidence to ask questions and let people know when you're unsure of the process or need assistance.

Seth's advice to ADF members thinking about transitioning into civilian employment, is that there are a multitude of different work options around Australia. He advises veterans to take their time, try a few different things and find out what's right for them. He stressed the importance of revisiting the qualifications and achievements attained while serving, because many of those skills are highly transferable. Seth says you don't need to settle for the first job you come across, especially if you've' got a lot of years of service under your belt. He says "there is no need to stress, you have plenty of time and you will always land on your feet."

Seth's advice to employers who may be unsure about hiring veterans is "that it is a good decision; you will get someone who is a performer, who can work under pressure, who holds themselves to a high standard and who will turn up every day looking to improve themselves."

View the full case study and more here: https://www.veteransemployment.gov.au/campaign-and-media/case-studies

CONTACT

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