



Transcription details:

Date: 04-May-2015
Input sound file: 06. Electrician Luke (Tas) V3

Transcription results:

[music]

Hi, my name's Luke. I am an electrical contractor in Tasmania, predominantly in the north, and I specialise in the irrigation field. We're currently on a property called Vauclose in the central-north of Tasmania. Predominantly irrigated ground here, so they grow a lot of crops, poppies, spuds, peas, feed crops for cattle. They also have dry ground which they have cattle and sheep on. So today, I've been doing an upgrade on a pump station on the South Esk River. Increased demand of his irrigation has led to a need for more water, and to get more water you need more electricity. So, we've just been putting a new mains, a new switchboard, to feed new pumps on that river line. I'll be involved from my job, from the design through to installation, through to service. There's quite a lot of service with it, too, because it's high-demand and they need it. When they need it to be working, it has to be working. So, I need to be available at any hour of the day, basically, to go and if there's a breakdown, to sort it out.

I basically dropped out of college in Year 11, didn't really have a real goal or idea of what I wanted to do or where I wanted to be. Fortunately, my parents gave me a job with the family business, so I started my apprenticeship when I was 17, and learned a lot of skills. We did a lot of different work: domestic, commercial, light industrial, and irrigation in the agricultural sector. I think that's what I enjoyed the most. I went out on my own about three-and-a-half to four years ago. I really enjoy this field of work. I enjoy being outside. I enjoy travelling. I get to see a lot of the state. I just enjoy the environment, being out in good air - clean air. Beautiful place to be, as opposed to being stuck in a roof crawling around with rats and mice, and in and out of people's homes. For me, this gives me a lot more freedom, and a lot more sense of achievement and content in what I do. I haven't looked back. It's been one of the best decisions I've made in my life. I would say to young people-- in my position, I never had any ambition to get involved in the agricultural sector. It was never a plan, or I never had this ideal on it. It was something I sort of fell into, but I'm really happy I ended up there. It's a really great field. I've met great people. I enjoy the relationships that I have with property owners and managers. At the end of the day, you've got to do something with your life, and I think you can find a way to enjoy whatever you do, if you apply yourself, and you really put yourself into that.

[music].

[silence]