

WOMEN IN CONSTRUCTION WEEK SPOTLIGHT

ALISSA SCHNEIDER

CEO

DANNY'S CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, LLC

As we celebrate women in construction this week, we are thankful for our women-owned construction businesses that employ our ironworkers.

Today we put the spotlight on **Alissa Schneider**, CEO of Danny's Construction Company that specializes in structural steel erection. Alissa worked fulltime at Danny's Construction Company while raising three children with her ironworker husband, Jeff, and taking college classes in the evenings and on weekends. Alissa earned her accounting degree and eventually her C.P.A. license early in her 42-year construction career.

Alissa led the expansion of the company and now it has branch offices serving the Chicago, Los Angeles, and San Francisco markets in addition to the company headquarters in Shakopee, MN. Under her leadership, Danny's Construction Company acquired Evergreen Erectors in Seattle and continue to work on complex steel erection projects across the U.S.

Alissa served as the first female chairperson for the Associated General Contractors of Minnesota in 2013. The Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal honored her as one of the "50 Top Women in Business" in 2014.

Her commitment to giving back to the industry is demonstrated in her 17 years of service to Iron Workers Local 512 Joint Apprentice Committee and 22 years of participation as a management trustee to the Ironworker Management Progressive Action Cooperative Trust.

"Women in leadership roles are becoming more common," says Alissa. "In my early career, if I was on a jobsite, everyone assumed that I was a safety representative or collecting time sheets because those were two of the common assignments for females. Now I encounter woman decision makers in almost every meeting. On jobsites, I'm so pleased to see women in the trades. The industry is looking for ways to break down barriers which prevent inclusion and idea sharing. For example, the International Iron Workers Union has developed a groundbreaking maternity benefit to protect mothers and their pregnancies before and after childbirth. I think that is so instrumental in supporting women in the trades."