



Q & A with Team Member: Rebecca Barber *Project Manager*

We're excited to share insights from one of our Project Managers on the NEXA | EAM Ireland team, Rebecca Barber. In the short time she's been with the company, Rebecca has demonstrated what it means to "Operate the NEXA Way, Every Day", as she successfully manages the day-to-day challenges of a growing team on a large SAP project in Ireland.



What led to you pursuing a career in the Life Sciences industry?

I had a lot of experience with different SAP modules for the past 10+ years, and built my knowledge over time in various industry types. I worked as a CMMS Coordinator and then moved to Maintenance Scheduler position for a Life Sciences company in Carlow, where I was again using SAP. It's there that I met John Cummins before he founded Cal OpEx (later to be re-branded as NEXA | EAM), and we worked together on a project. Years later, I heard about an opening at NEXA and decided to take a chance. I was very happy at my current job—it was close to home and I really enjoyed it. But because of John I took the risk. I thought, if anyone can make this work, it would be John!

What do you enjoy most about your role?

As a Project Manager, given my SAP background, I'm entrusted to do my job and to manage my team. I really enjoy it because it allows me to provide advice and guidance, sharing my SAP knowledge, training and helping to keep everyone in compliance. I'm really an "SAP nerd" because I know it very well, and am always looking for opportunities of implementing it in the best way to get the best results out of the system for our client.

What challenges do you face on the large SAP project the team is currently working on in Ireland?

There's been some team growth with the current project. Our client is getting ready to build a new site, and we're starting to recruit now. But it's a challenge because SAP is a niche market and not a lot of people have that knowledge. We're fortunate to have the internal talent to taken on the data migration. We were able to quickly come into this project site, assess the situation, complete the work, and leverage

the client's team onsite. We help to lighten their workload and bring in the expertise they don't have in-house.

We've also worked closely with our client to help them understand the benefits and value of migrating to a new SAP paperless system. It's a delicate balance to ensure you're meeting the client's needs, while also properly educating and training their team on the new system.

What advice would you give to someone starting their career as a Project Manager?

Remember that not everything will go your way and be perfect. Expect it, and know that it's going to be okay. Understand that people can be resistant to change, so have patience and understand that change isn't always seen by the client as a great thing. You need to learn to manage their resistance, educate them about the benefits, and know that there will be bumps in the road.

Which of NEXA's core values do you connect with most?

"Be proactive in everything we do." I am very lucky to work with a fantastic group! NEXA seems to be able to recruit dynamic, funny people—I don't know how they do it! We all work hard together to get the job done. No obstacles are too big. When issues arise, such as when the systems don't match during a data migration—we make it work and keep it going to achieve our clients' goals.

What's something people would be surprised to learn about you?

If I invite you to dinner, know that I'm really a bad cook! I try to aim for healthy food, but it takes the taste out. Sometimes you just need the butter!