



# WINLPG

## Women in LPG



**Ms Stephanie Hennen**  
Chief Compliance Officer  
Manager of Marketing,  
Lakes Gas,  
United States

*"Women have an important role in our industry and I am extremely grateful for all of the women who came before me and paved a way so that I can be a part of this great industry."*

Ms Stephanie Hennen

## Meet the Role Models

**WINLPG Role Models introduce successful individuals in the LPG industry and give an insight into their career path, their challenges and their advice to fellow WINLPG members.**

I grew up around the propane industry but it wasn't until I attended my first propane convention for the state of Minnesota that I realised I wanted to build a career in propane. I was 17 years old and only knew the people that worked with my dad at Westmor Industries; yet when I attended the convention, everyone I met was genuinely kind to me. It was that moment that I knew this industry was for me. During my time at South Dakota State University I worked for Westmor Industries, a propane equipment manufacturer and CHS, a Fortune 100 Energy & Agriculture business. During this time I became more passionate about the industry and the benefits that propane has to offer the economy and the environment. I truly was known on campus as "the girl that loves propane". It's now been 6 years since I started my full-time career in the Propane industry and I have loved every moment. I now am the Manager of Marketing for Lakes Gas and I'm heavily involved on a state & national level. I was the first (and youngest) female to chair the Conventions Committee & the PropanePAC for NPGA and in 2020 I founded the 30 under 30 program that is ran through the Young Gassers Association and supported by NPGA. I love the career I've built so far and I am extremely grateful that I was awarded Young Woman of the Year through the WINLPG Network in 2022.

*"WINLPG has done an amazing job over the years showcasing so many talented women in the LPG Industry across the globe. Since I only operate in the United States, it's always been encouraging for me to see such a strong group of female leaders that our industry has."*

Ms Stephanie Hennen

# SIX KEY QUESTIONS

**What is your goal today, this can be personal or professional?**

I want to inspire women, of any age, to be themselves. We don't need to change who we are just to try and fit into an industry that is predominantly male. You can do wonderful things within this industry just by showcasing the talents & the personality you already have.

**Did you have a mentor and how did they help mold your inclusive management style?**

I'm very lucky to have had many mentors throughout my career so far. Tim Esterling was my very first mentor in the industry, I worked with him at Westmor Industries where I interned throughout high school. Tim taught me a lot but he was by far one of the kindest people I ever interacted with and he showed me the importance of being an active individual within the industry.

**Describe your pathway (your career path)**

I started working in the marketing department for Westmor Industries when I was 16 years old. I continued in their marketing department through high school and part of college, however there were two summers in college that I interned for CHS Propane. After graduating college, I worked full-time for Westmor for a little over a year before I got the opportunity to move and coordinate Trade Shows for Marshall Excelsior Company (MEC), a global propane equipment parts manufacturer. After being at MEC for two years, I met my current manager who offered me a brand-new position managing the Marketing Department for Lakes Gas, a propane retailer in the Upper Midwest of the United States.

**What does leadership mean to you?**

Leadership and management tend to get mixed up these days. However, you don't need to be in a management role to be a leader. To me, leaders show empathy towards others and truly want to see others succeed. Leadership isn't a title you're given, it's your interaction with others in your personal and professional life.

**What are any specific challenges do you believe face women in our industry?**

I do see challenges that women face in our industry. However, I am thankful for this industry because for the most part, everyone is supportive. I have seen other women my age in different industries have to face a lot more difficult situations than I have. I have found that sometimes it can be hard to be taken seriously, especially as a young woman, but I've been able to build a really great support group that has helped me work through some of those situations.

**What three pieces of advice would you give to someone embarking on their career with LPG?**

1. Don't be afraid to start. This industry is full of people who are extremely supportive and want to see others succeed.
2. Get involved in industry associations at all levels. You are able to have such a large impact on the future of the industry by being involved.
3. The one piece of advice I hope everyone, especially young women, take away from me is to never change who you are. You can be exactly who you are and still be successful.



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Women in LPG Global Network

[www.wlpga.org](http://www.wlpga.org)