1
00:00:09,160 --> 00:00:13,710
My name is Karin Bozak, and I'm an electrical engineer in the power systems branch at the

2
00:00:13,710 --> 00:00:15,460
NASA Glenn Research Center.

3
00:00:15,460 --> 00:00:20,521
In my current job as an electrical engineer, I'm supporting the design, integration, and

4
00:00:20,521 --> 00:00:26,250
test of a power-processing unit for NASA's solar electric propulsion project.

5
00:00:26,250 --> 00:00:31,630
The power-processing unit serves as an interface between your solar array and your electric

6
00:00:31,630 --> 00:00:37,440
propulsion ion thruster for NASA's future NEXT generation space missions.

7
00:00:37,440 --> 00:00:41,140
On a day-to-day basis, I spend most of my time working in a lab with a team of other

8
00:00:41,140 --> 00:00:43,390
test engineers.

9
00:00:43,390 --> 00:00:45,890
NASA has a lot of programs supporting women.

10
00:00:45,890 --> 00:00:49,760
At the agency level, we have the Women at NASA website, which highlights the career

11
00:00:49,760 --> 00:00:54,090
paths and accomplishments of women across

the agency.

12
00:00:54,090 --> 00:00:59,770
Here at NASA Glenn, I'm a member of our Women's Advisory Group, which promotes activities

13
00:00:59,770 --> 00:01:05,360
and volunteer events within the community to support women in the workplace.

14
00:01:05,360 --> 00:01:09,540
My top role model for women in STEM careers is Sally Ride.

15
00:01:09,540 --> 00:01:14,860
She's a role model for myself—being a female in the space program—the first female, United

16
00:01:14,860 --> 00:01:19,020
States astronaut, as well as the youngest astronaut to fly in space.

17
00:01:19,020 --> 00:01:25,220
I admire Sally Ride for being a strong advocate of women in STEM career fields through her

18
00:01:25,220 --> 00:01:29,800
own company, Sally Ride Science where she supports education and outreach activities

19
00:01:29,800 --> 00:01:30,800
for girls.

20
00:01:30,800 --> 00:01:36,170
I was inspired to pursue an engineering career by my high school math and science teachers

21
00:01:36,170 --> 00:01:40,490
that helped me find a career path that fit my passion for those subjects.

22
00:01:40,490 --> 00:01:44,910
I was also inspired by a summer engineering
camp where I got to see what each of the disciplines

23
00:01:44,910 --> 00:01:49,690
of engineers worked on and found that electrical
engineering was a good fit for me.

24
00:01:49,690 --> 00:01:54,770
Additionally, in high school, I did a job
shadowing program where I saw how engineers

25
00:01:54,770 --> 00:02:01,130
helped to improve medical imaging technologies
so that doctors could diagnose patients more

26
00:02:01,130 --> 00:02:02,800
accurately and faster.

27
00:02:02,800 --> 00:02:07,110
Through that experience, I saw how engineers
could make a world of difference through their

28
00:02:07,110 --> 00:02:12,340
career path, and I hope to inspire future
generations of engineers and scientists by

29
00:02:12,340 --> 00:02:15,510
sharing my work experiences here at NASA with
them.

30
00:02:15,510 --> 00:02:21,670
I think that one of the best ways you can
inspire girls to study STEM and pursue STEM

31
00:02:21,670 --> 00:02:25,920
careers is through education and outreach
and really the opportunity for them to see

32
00:02:25,920 --> 00:02:30,450
what engineers do on a day to day basis to
make the world a better place.

33
00:02:30,450 --> 00:02:35,910
I've been able to volunteer at Young Astronaut
Day and other opportunities to bring students

34
00:02:35,910 --> 00:02:40,660
on-site at NASA Glenn and see what engineers
do here at our research center.

35
00:02:40,660 --> 00:02:44,670
And I think, most importantly, just to make
sure that girls know that they can be an engineer