Arpitha Chandrasekhara

Sr. Product Development Engineer

"From the time we wake up early in the morning until we go back to sleep at night, we use so many gadgets that use semiconductors. What I love about my job at AMD is that I can see the products I develop go live and millions of people using and appreciating them."

1. Tell us about yourself and your role at AMD.

My hometown in India is a city called Bengaluru, which you may know as Bangalore. My undergrad was an engineering degree in Telecommunications, after which I was recruited to be a part of Robert Bosch Engineering and Business solutions, a pioneer in this space. Five years in, I sought to gain more academic knowledge and decided to move to the US to pursue my master's degree. Love for this field and particular interest in processors meant that I actively sought and landed in a job at AMD. At AMD, I am a product development engineer. I develop the program used by an ATE - Automated Testing Equipment.

What I love about my job at AMD is that I can see the products I develop go live and millions of people using and appreciating them.

2. What hobbies did you have growing up?

My hobbies growing up were singing and solving Sudoku puzzles. I am also a trained Indian classical singer, although my current love is belting out the latest movie soundtracks!

3. What was your favorite subject in school growing up?

Science without doubt. My fondest memory is trying out various combinations of elements in order to find a new element at a chemistry lab, which may have resulted in shattering a few pieces of glass equipment.

4. What do you like about being an engineer at AMD?

I think the opportunity to work for an industry leader, in an extremely fast paced and innovative industry is by itself an opportunity of a lifetime. To be able to supplement it with a supportive team, caring leadership and with a revered female CEO at the helm is just the cherry on top. I work with my laptop which is made using a product that I helped to develop. My friends play games using systems which again use an AMD processor. I am aware that millions of people who use the products we develop and believe me, this is a great feeling.

5. What advice would you like to give students who want to pursue a career in STEM?

We are fortunate to live in a world where knowledge is easily available. I would strongly advise any student to start off by learning more about the innumerable career paths that STEM offers. No matter the field of your choosing, if you want to create a meaningful impact for a significantly larger audience, then STEM is the way to go. You have infinite avenues to learn, be it through certificate courses, self-paced learning or more traditional routes. Just pick one and get started!