## WHY KONECRANES®?

Meet Kendra Ballard.

In January 2004, Kendra Ballard was taking her first accounting course at Clark State Community College in Springfield, Ohio. Her instructor, an adjunct professor, was the East Area Controller at Konecranes that same year. He valued Kendra's work ethic and asked to see her resume. A year to the day of starting her first accounting course, she received a call with an offer to take an accounting co-op position at Konecranes. Three days later, Kendra started her first day at Konecranes.

While Springfield is home to Konecranes Region Americas headquarters, it's also home for Kendra. Before she started her accounting co-op 14 years ago, Kendra recalls how good jobs were leaving Springfield for bigger, nearby cities, so the job at Konecranes was a welcome opportunity to be able to hone her accounting skills and gain knowledge in her hometown. She felt the opportunity was too good to pass up and the timing was perfect. Today, Kendra is Senior Payroll Specialist and she's working on getting her bachelor's degree in Business Administration which will further support her career growth at Konecranes. She spent her first 9 months after the co-op as a Supplier Accounts Coordinator for Purchasing, providing a great deal of administrative support to the Purchasing team at that time. When she transitioned to her position in Payroll, she says it was great to be back in a role where she could apply her accounting background. Everything came full circle, she said.

"The moment I knew I made the right decision to work here was on day one," Kendra says. "The office was like one big, happy family. I was welcomed by all. Everyone offered assistance and/or guidance. They were here to help me grow and succeed." She's been with Konecranes just long enough to see how much it's evolved over the years, recalling how much smaller the team was at the corporate office when she started in contrast to today. "In 2005, the entire corporate office fit in one building. Now, we cover two buildings at headquarters and need even more office space." Kendra says she is proud to be a part of a company that shows significant growth simply in its number of people. "It's a positive thing," she says, "to see the advancements in staff, management, the people, and the company as a whole."

To her appreciation, Kendra joined Konecranes to find that she was stepping in to what felt like a family, not just a job. She describes some of the things she likes most about working at Konecranes as not just related to the work she does so much as the environment she works in. "I like the morale," she says. "You cannot walk through the halls and not hear laughter." Furthermore, she says she's grateful for the #LoveOurTeam initiative where employees all over Region Americas use the hashtag LoveOurTeam and take a picture with their teammates holding a #LoveOurTeam poster to be shared and used in different ways. It's just one small way to show the world that the people of Konecranes work with talented, energetic, respected, and fun men and women each and every day. What this means to Kendra, she says, "Each one of us—no matter our position—are part of ONE team!"