



EDEL FREITAS

EDEL'S SUCCESS STORY

RELAUNCH STATS

Length of
Career
Break  6
years

Nature of
Career
Break  Childcare

Time to
Relaunch  2
years

CAREER TRAJECTORY

Pre-Break Employer and Job Title

- Venture Development Center at UMass Boston
- Program manager

Employer and Job Title at Point of Relaunch

- Organon Portugal
- STS specialist

Current Employer and Job Title

- Organon Portugal
- STS specialist

ABOUT

Edel Freitas relaunched as a STS Specialist at Organon, Portugal after a six year career break. She received a very warm welcome from a bilingual team and found a place where she felt that she could be her authentic self. Her business education, her work at the Venture Development Center at UMass Boston and her transferable skills from her career break were instrumental in her relaunch

TALK TO US ABOUT THE TRANSFERRABLE SKILLS THAT YOU GAINED DURING YOUR CAREER BREAK

- During the interview, I recall discussing painting and how it's a solitary activity that requires careful consideration of color, composition, and meaning
- Every stroke and line is a deliberate choice, and the process requires a significant amount of analytical skill.
- Even abstract painting, which may seem random, is challenging to execute in a manner that is visually appealing.
- I've found that the analytical approach I developed while painting has been transferable to other areas of my life, such as invoice processing.
- In tasks like reviewing and addressing invoice issues, the same methodical and analytical approach is necessary to ensure accuracy and completeness.

HOW WAS IT LIKE RETURNING TO WORK THROUGH THE ORGANON CAREER REENTRY PROGRAM?

- I was looking for a flexible, supportive, international, and bilingual work environment, and this process aligned with those expectations. It's crucial to maintain open communication, especially with managers, as the work progresses.
- The interview process felt very natural and non-intimidating. The experience was good, and it's important for people returning to the workforce to feel comfortable during interviews as they are also evaluating the company.
- My manager was very supportive of my art and valued my transferrable skills
- The mentorship support by iRelaunch set me up for success. It was not like an ordinary job placement and I will be grateful for that.

To read Edel's full success story, visit [iRelaunch's Success Story Archive!](#)