

## **Part VIII - One Working Day with...**

Wednesday 11 November. A gloomy and foggy morning. It is 5:50. Lenka Kohoutová gets out of her car thinking of her today's tasks.

Lenka started to work in Logistics Department after her over ten years' experience in a construction company in 2013. After her three year's maternity leave, she returned back to work at the Academy in 2019. She is an assets management officer. She is responsible for repairs and investments. She will complete her MBA studies next February.

6:00 Lenka reads her e-mails. A price offer for the repair of the window blinds in the hotel has arrived. A lot of paper work is ahead. She needs to get ready for her control day at the simulation centre construction site.

7:00 Lenka runs to check the state of repairs in one of the Academy kitchenettes. Water is not leaking but the sink rail has not been attached yet.

On her way down to the fitness room, Lenka looks at the stair railing. It will be painted soon.

In the fitness room, she finds out that while removing the old shields, one broken mirror revealed. Lenka takes a few photos and measures the mirror size. Before she leaves the room, she checks the state of the ceiling repairs.

Next, she hurries to the office of a teacher who left the Academy recently. She documents the state of the office that will be painted and prepared for a new teacher.

7:30 Lenka calls to the firm offering window blinds repairs. But it is too early. They will call her back later today.

Lenka does not wait. She runs from the third floor to the basement to measure the X-ray baggage scanner before it is moved in the new simulation centre. The scanner is a heavy but delicate machine and Lenka wants to ensure a successful transfer.

The school simulation cell also moves to the simulation centre. Lenka examines the hole that remained after the cell door demolition. She considers the way of dismantling the glass part of the former simulation cell that will become a regular classroom\*\*. Suddenly, a teacher Vladimír Kupec appears at the door. He feels nostalgic for the vanishing place where he spent years training his students. Lenka consults the construction of the new simulation centre with Vladimír.

A few minutes later, Lenka checks a vending machine that has replaced a canteen closed due to Covid-19. The vending company has promised to install a credit card reader by the end of this week.

Lenka goes to the ventilation control room. Morning temperature drops down to the freezing point in November. The ventilation device must be set for winter conditions. The ventilation revision deadline is approaching. Lenka has completed the market research and found out that some firms offer - apart from standard control and maintenance services - also air-conditioning unit sanitation with a special Anti-Covid disinfectant. This service must be ordered as soon as possible.

Lenka looks in the room next door. The heat exchanger is in a good shape.

9:00 The control day at the construction site begins. Only some persons are present. Some cannot come because of the Covid-19 travelling restrictions. There are many workers at the site today. Lenka controls and documents the present state and consults adjustments or changes inside and outside the future simulation building including the fencing. Having signed the site diary, Lenka hurries back to the Academy school.

10:15 She starts writing the control day report.

11:00 Lenka takes her lunch break. The cooks at Stráž pod Ralskem Prison made roast goose for the St. Martin's Day.

11:20 An e-mail comes with an announcement that due to a municipal water supply accident, the Academy Director allows the employees to end their working day at 12:30. However, Lenka urgently needs to complete her today's tasks. The only thing she can postpone for tomorrow is a meeting with a firm that offers gardening services\*. She leaves the Academy at 14:20.

\* Thursday 12 November 6:30. A gardening firm representative arrives at the Academy. Lenka consults the hedge trimming and lawn mowing with him. Normally, such work is done by prisoners from the neighbouring prison. However, in the times of pandemic, the prisoners are not allowed to go outside the prison. That is why the Academy has to make an exception and offer an outside supplier's services.

\*\* Today, Lenka also has a lot to do. In the morning, another firm representative comes. This firm will dismantle the former simulation cell and change it into a classroom. In the afternoon, she goes to the hostel to control the state of the bathroom reconstruction, emergency lightning repair and window adjustment.

What is the impact of the pandemic on Lenka's work? She misses handshaking with the suppliers. To great representatives of the companies touching their elbows is not appropriate. Her smile in communication with people is hidden under the mask. Lenka tries to overcome that discomfort using a nice and pleasant voice. It is not easy to find suppliers during the pandemic. Fewer companies can offer and do their services. The reasons may be infected workers, their staying home in quarantine or with their school children. Lenka is afraid of infection that may slow down or even stop agreed work. She would like certain work to be completed before the students are back at the Academy. She is not happy when lessons are disturbed by noisy repairs and students do not have to experience electricity or water switching off. Lenka is aware of the fact that Logistics Department significantly influences the conditions for training and the public opinion of the Academy. And her work results are important to her.