

Objectives

Creative individual with strong manufacturing and machining background. Enjoys taking an idea from concept to delivery, an out of the box thinker and an eye for making products and processes better, faster and more economical. Over thirty four years experience as a machine designer.

CAD Experience

Beginning with AutoCAD version 2.17b in 1984, I have used every version as they have become available. In 2006 I began using Inventor for 3D design and used it through version 10. In 2014 I switched to SolidWorks and used it through version 2018 until switching back to Inventor which I currently use daily.

Design Philosophy

Albert Einstein once said "The best design is the simplest one that works." I am a strong believer in that philosophy and not only apply it to the design process but also extend it into the manufacturing, assembly and maintenance aspects of a machine as well. What Einstein didn't say is that it is usually the least costly.

LINCOLN ELECTRIC AUTOMATION CHURUBUSCO, INDIANA

All aspects of designing automated production equipment primarily for the automotive, medical and consumer appliance industries.

**POSITION HELD: DESIGN ENGINEER
SEPTEMBER 2018 TO CURRENT**

ALLIANCE AUTOMATION VAN WERT, OHIO

Same position as the first time I worked for them, designing automated production equipment. I was laid in June of 2018 and took the summer off to complete some significant repairs I needed to do on my house which I had initially intended to hire a contractor for.

**POSITION HELD: DESIGN ENGINEER
FEBRUARY 2016 TO JUNE 2018**

PLANT ENGINEERING SERVICES FORT WAYNE, INDIANA

Light equipment design and plant layout. We installed, serviced, diagnosed and repaired large hydraulic presses and all the various equipment that supports that type of operation. Typical assignments for me was mostly hiring crews for rigging, pipe fitting and installations and then supervising those crews on site while the operation was performed. It was not what I expected and resigned there to return to Alliance Automation at my previous position.

**POSITION HELD: SENIOR DESIGNER
APRIL 2015 TO FEBRUARY 2016**

ALLIANCE AUTOMATION VAN WERT, OHIO

Designing automated assembly and production equipment for various industries from packaging and material handling to automotive. Typical assignments were new machines from concept to delivery. I was offered a position at Plant Engineering with a salary increase and resigned to work for them.

**POSITION HELD: DESIGN ENGINEER
AUGUST 2014 TO APRIL 2015**

STARLIGHT INSTRUMENTS COLUMBIA CITY, INDIANA

This was a temporary position to update decades of old engineering drawings they had been using since the purchase of the company. They did not have any permanent engineering in house.

**POSITION HELD: CONTRACT ENGINEERING
JULY 2013 TO JULY 2014**

ALLIANCE WINDING EQUIPMENT FORT WAYNE, INDIANA

Designing manual and automated production equipment primarily for the electric motor industry. Typical assignments range from retrofitting existing equipment to complete designs of complex machines from concept to installation.

**POSITION HELD: DESIGN ENGINEER
FEBRUARY 2001 TO JUNE 2013**

MACHINE REBUILDERS AND SERVICES FORT WAYNE, INDIANA

Responsibilities at MRS were identical to those below. Primarily confined to the electric motor industry, we built original equipment and re-tooled existing equipment.

**POSITION HELD: DESIGN ENGINEER
NOVEMBER 1996 TO JANUARY 2001**

AUTOMATED CONTROL SYSTEMS, INC. NEW HAVEN, INDIANA

I started into machine design under the tutorship of Tom Gage, the owner of ACS and quickly settled into the daily task of learning the business and designing original equipment. Responsibilities at ACS were all aspects of machine design from concept to installation. We primarily served the automotive and electric motor industry.

**POSITION HELD: DESIGN ENGINEER
AUGUST 1991 TO NOVEMBER 1996**

Prior to moving to Indiana I worked for Sundstrand Aviation Aerospace Division as a machinist for seven years out of High School. Responsibilities included all aspects of setup, running and inspection of high precision parts on manual and CNC machine tools in a production environment.

Please visit [HTTP://WWW.RICKTHOMPSON.ORG](http://www.rickthompson.org) for more detailed information on my skills and experience.

ADDENDUM

GOALS REGARDING THIS MOVE TO A NEW EMPLOYER

I have received some inquiries regarding positions only tangentially related to my skill set so I think it's prudent to define my goals in this effort.

Although I would not dismiss any serious opportunity out of hand, staying close to machine design is important to me. I would consider other roles besides general machine design such as mentoring or a management position but it would need to be closely related to the skills and knowledge I have developed over my long career.

The knowledge I and people like me have is being lost at an astounding rate and it concerns me that this knowledge is not being passed down to future machine designers. I gained my knowledge from working with some brilliant designers who were far more experienced and knowledgeable than myself. That was an irreplaceable asset for me and I would really like to spend the last years of my career affording that asset to younger engineers in a way of giving back a portion of what I had the opportunity to learn.

My intention is to work until i can claim full retirement benefits and possibly past that time in a consulting or fully remote design position. I still enjoy machine design and it never grows old due to the constant advancement of technology that offers a never ending learning experience.