



MEET THE TEAM BEHIND THE TECHNOLOGY

Mike Merritt

SPECIALTY GRAFT/ R&D COORDINATOR

THE BASICS

Years with Lattice: Since the very beginning and even before it was called "Lattice." Nearly 7 years and counting...

Other Roles with Lattice: Processing Technician, CNC Operator, CNC Manager, Manufacturing Manager, and Director of Processing.

THE INTERVIEW

How many years have you worked in this industry?
13

Did you work in other fields before biotech?

I started off in tissue recovery for research and eventually found myself transitioning into the transplant field.

What do you enjoy most about your work?

Creating and developing new products. Being hands on. I really love being part of all the different processes in Processing. That type of role has been consistent for me from the start of my career to being heavily involved in the technical side of tissue banking.

What 3 things do you believe will be most critical for Lattice's success in the next couple years?

1. Research and Development leading to cutting edge, new grafts and products
2. Increasing the Lattice team to facilitate greater production
3. Building a team atmosphere

What do you most want to accomplish through your work at Lattice?



Be a part of the development of new grafts, obtain my CTBS certification, and continue to grow with the company.

What is the greatest advice you can offer someone interested in pursuing a career in this field?

Be flexible and ready to adapt to change. There is always something changing in the medical field, in the tissue banking industry, and within the companies, themselves. You must always be ready to scrap a seemingly good plan for a better one.

What is your biggest personal goal outside of the office?

I am going back to school in the Spring to pursue a Bachelor's in Psychology.

(Editor's note: Way to go, Mike!)

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What totally different job would you have in another life?

I have always been interested in and think I would really enjoy a career in firearms design and manufacturing.

What is a Fun Fact about you?

I used to play the saxophone.

CAREER STATS

Past Career Highlights:

- Manufacturing Manager, Lattice Biologics
- CNC Manager, Lattice Biologics
- CNC Manager; CNC Operator; Processing Technician, International Biologics (former name of Lattice Biologics)
- Tissue Procurement Coordinator, GenLife Institute
- Procurement Coordinator, LifeLegacy Foundation

Education & Certifications:

- Currently pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Psychology and CTBS certification
- General studies in Anatomy, Physiology and Biology
- Mortuary Sciences - Pima Community College

Research Foci:

I am currently working on structural grafts for fusion and the correction of deformities I've also really enjoyed designing and producing CNC milled grafts for our contract manufacturing clients as well as traditional tissue processing.

Accomplishments:

- First surgical technician at LifeLegacy to dissect out the entire human major circulatory system for a research client.
- Trained over a dozen technicians to complete full body recoveries for medical research.
- Written and implemented several technical SOPs (Standard Operating Procedures) for the LifeLegacy Foundation, the GenLife Institute, and for Lattice Biologics.
- Designed and produced several precision milled allografts for multiple contract manufacturing clients.
- Studied, revised, and implemented the Dermis 2.0 process for Lattice Biologics. This shortened the production time and also reduced the amount of reagents used. The resulting efficiencies created a significant cost savings for the company.
- Helped establish the technical program for the GenLife Institute.

Career Mission:

To provide quality allografts for people in need of them and to honor every donor and their families by using the gift to its greatest extent.

