Monday, March 15, 2021



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT: Interview with Kevin Syverson - Chief Technical Officer

What has been most rewarding in your role as the Chief Technical Officer at SFE?

Great question ~ It has to be the interaction and collaboration with our customers, suppliers and the entire team at SFE. From presenting our Design for Manufacturability materials, visiting other companies to see how the materials that we use are made, and learning from our team members on how to make their jobs easier continues to make my role very enjoyable and rewarding.

What changes have you seen in the past 20 years?

I believe the biggest disrupters (in a good way) have been the dramatic improvements in the equipment that we utilize on a daily basis. For example, the advent of selective soldering has completely replaced wave soldering in our facility, resulting in far less fixturing, utilities and direct material costs associated with this process. The capabilities of solder paste inspection and x-ray inspection equipment, for example, bear very little resemblance to the equipment that was available 20 years ago.

The advent of 3D printing has also enabled the rapid creation of tools & fixtures for our production team which has helped to make their jobs easier and increase the velocity of product through our facility.

These are just a few of the many changes that I have witnessed over the last 20 years. Looking forward, I am excited to see what the future holds in terms of further advances in technology for our industry.

When you are not in "the Forest" as the CTO… what do you enjoy?

I enjoy hanging out with friends & family (especially my two grandson's 😉) exploring the many hiking trails and mountains in our beautiful corner of the Pacific Northwest. I am very fortunate to get to work and play in the "Forest". Thanks for reading!

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