KENNETH C. MILLER

SUMMARY

- **Mechanical Engineer and Manager** - proven track record in a broad range of disciplines and industries including Capital Equipment, Semiconductor, Disc Drive, Automation, Robotics, High Vacuum and Mechanisms.
- Expertise in design, systems architecture, automation, clean rooms, process equipment, high-vacuum, high-volume, mechanisms, injection molding, tooling and vendor management.
- Thrives in start-up situations and excels in taking ideas from concept to reality.
- Self-motivated with outstanding creative and communication skills.
- Positive, can-do attitude with ability to get things done!
- Extensive knowledge of manufacturing processes and Far East production.
- Excellent management skills - hands on style - leading teams up to 50 individuals.
- Creates departmental efficiencies through continuous process improvement.
- Personally designed majority of two Sputtering Systems and two Cleaning Systems

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Sketching (with a pencil!)
- Design
- SolidWorks (10+ years)
- Inventing
- Vacuum Systems
- Tolerance Studies
- Detailing
- AutoCad Inventor (6 months)
- Failure Analysis
- Presentations
- Prototypes and Mock-ups
- Time and Budget Estimates

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

CutThroatRobotics, Silicon Valley, CA **2012 – 2013**
Mechanical Engineering Consulting (sole proprietorship)

Mechanical Engineer
- Contracted with clients including Flexstar (automation), PlasmaSi (vacuum and process), Texas Instruments (test fixtures) and Photo USA (production tooling and fixtures).

XYRATEX, Fremont, CA / Scotts Valley, CA
Capital Equipment – Disc Drive (large corporation - acquired Oliver Design in 2005)

Mechanical Engineering Manager, Senior Systems Engineer **2009 – 2012**
- Managed a team of 15 Mechanical Engineers on a $30 M project - automated disc drive test for fully assembled hard disc drives. This included travelling to Malaysia to lead the transition from prototype to production.
- Led team of 8 Mechanical Engineers on a $10M project - automated optical disc inspection system for glass substrates including travel to the Philippines to support prototype systems in a production environment.
- Ensured project timeline was met by hiring 5 contractors in 5 days.
- Managed teams and projects on time and within budget, resulting in surviving 14 RIFs (reduction in force).
- Established and implemented new PO / purchase order process to achieve $200K in open POs to vendors in 2 months' timeframe.

Director, **Engineering / Director, Development Engineering** **2003 – 2009**
- Directed a team of 50 Engineers with 5 direct reports in multiple departments including Electrical, Mechanical and Software engineering as well as doc control and technical publications for the development of an upgraded substrate cleaning system for the disc drive industry.
- Enhanced substrate cleaning process including disc handling automation, sonics, scrubbing and drying resulting in many innovations including 6 invention disclosures, and 2 patent applications.
- Personally designed new Dryer Module for dual hand-off and improved process capabilities.
- Optimized efficiencies in electrical engineering department by transitioning to autocad electrical design software.

POWERFILE / STARMATIX, Los Gatos, CA **1999 – 2002**
Data Storage – High Volume DVD Changer (Start-Up)

Director, **Mechanical Engineering** / **Founder**

- Recruited to take a dual drive 200 disc DVD Changer apparatus from prototype to high- volume production in a start-up environment in 12 months (one patent disclosure).
- Hired and managed a team of 8 Mechanical Engineers to convert from prototype to production machine for Injection molding and sheet metal stamping tools made in Korea with the product manufactured in China.

OLIVER DESIGN, Scotts Valley, CA **1997 – 1999**
Capital Equipment – Disc Drive Substrate Cleaning (small, privately held company)

Senior Mechanical Engineer

- Designed and integrated new disc dryer module (Drum Dryer process) into existing automation line in 7 months.
- Developed dual hand-off mechanism for drying substrates
- Sustained engineering for current product line of disc cleaners (O2Ks).
- Created entire new multi-module cleaning system (O1K)

MILLER ENGINEERING, Mountain View, CA **1993 – 1997**
Mechanical Engineering Consulting (sole proprietorship)

Mechanical Engineer

- Contracted with clients including Hine Design (high vacuum R-Theta - Z robotic arms) and Harmon Kardon (consumer electronics packaging)
- Created many successful and innovative designs.

ADDITIONAL RELATED EXPERIENCE

NOVELLUS SYSTEMS, San Jose, CA
Capital Equipment – Semiconductor PVD System (Start-Up) – Personally designed 75% of sytem
Senior Mechanical Engineer

KUBIK ENTERPRISES, Saratoga, CA
Consumer Electronics - CD Changer (Start-Up).
Founder, President and Mechanical Engineer

GRENEX / SEAGATE MAGNETICS, Fremont, CA
Capital Equipment – Disc Drive Substrate Sputtering System (Start-Up) – Personally designed 90% of system
Mechanical Engineer

TRILOGY SYSTEMS, Cupertino, CA
Main Frame Computers – Clean Room and PCBs (Start-Up).
Mechanical Engineer

EDUCATION

- **BSME**, University of California at Berkeley, Berkely, CA

PATENTS

- U.S. Patents: 15 issued, several pending, many disclosures