

4 Questions with...



Steven E. Phillips
*President of Phillips Precision, Inc.,
Co-owner, The Pitbull Clamp Co., Inc.
Inventor, The Pitbull Clamp*

How did you get started in manufacturing?

"I was drawn to a career in manufacturing for two reasons; one is that I've always felt I was better at learning by working with my hands than in a lecture hall, and two, it must have run in the family because I grew up working in my father's machine shop so he handed down the aptitude for "making things."

So you've always been good at this?

"I wasn't good in all the trades... for example I failed electronics when I was a freshman in trade school. Shuffling paper is not my idea of a good time either. What I do find rewarding is taking something from an idea to reality. I'm very good at mechanical thinking and love to solve problems."

"I think you're going to see a lot more women entering the field. This is not my father's manufacturing facility, it's precise and clean. Most women have an eye for detail and offer a different perspective which is very helpful."

manufacturing facility, it's precise and clean. Most women have an eye for detail and offer a different perspective which is very helpful. One suggestion that I would make to any woman looking to get into the manufacturing field is to look into metrology or inspection services as a jumping off point."

What's your favorite thing about your job?

"Being in a manufacturing environment fosters a higher level of creativity. I have one patent and several others pending, and there are tons of other guys just like me, out there solving problems. I love the challenge."

What's one change you see coming?

"I think you're going to see a lot more women entering the field. This is not my father's

"Desire is the key to motivation, but it's determination and commitment to an unrelenting pursuit of your goal - a commitment to excellence - that will enable you to attain the success you seek."

Mario Andretti

The Path to Success

*Certificate of Proficiency in
Machining, Programming & Drafting
Assabet Valley Reg HS – 1981*

*Pre-Engineering Certificate
Central New England College – 1987*

*Hydraulics, Welding, Forklift Safety
Norton Company – 1988*

*Maintenance Machinist
Norton Company – 1988*

*Advisory Board Member and Instructor
of Basic Machine Shop Practice
Assabet Valley Reg HS – 1992*

*Senior Model Maker
Bose Corporation – 1994*

*MasterCam Programming
Bose Corporation – 1995*

*Supervisor of Model Shop
Bose Corporation – 1996*

*President
Phillips Precision, Inc – 1997*

*Co-owner
The Pitbull Clamp Co., Inc. – 1999*

*Adjunct Professor
Quinsigamond Community College – 2010*



Mass-TEC is an organization dedicated to increasing the awareness of Advanced Manufacturing in Central MA and the many viable career options in this industry segment. Mass-TEC is comprised of a network of local collaborators including Quinsigamond Community College and many private and public sectors partners.

