



# Devin Murray

Moog Space and Defense Group

Engineering Section Head

Fairleigh Dickinson University

ASME Presentation

**MOOG**

# Personal Background & Education

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Originally from Tarpon  
Springs, Florida



BSME from Carnegie  
Mellon in 2010

MSME from RPI in 2014

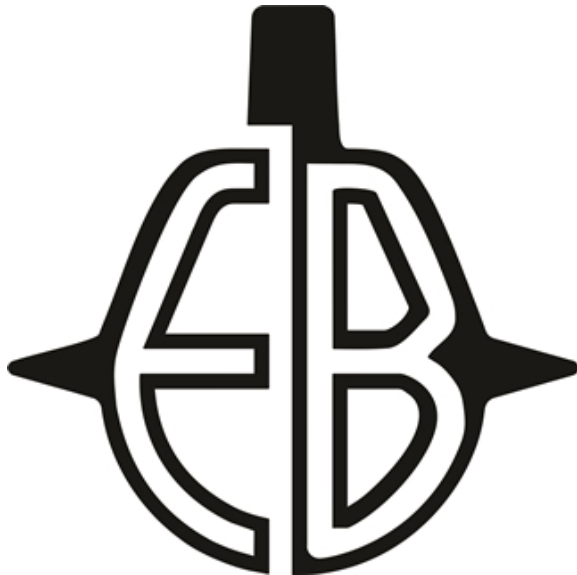


Ohio since 2018

# First Job Experience – General Dynamics Electric Boat

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- Hydraulic Components Engineer
  - Supported equipment suppliers and construction of VIRGINIA Class submarines
  - Collaborated with vendors to develop and qualify new hydraulic component designs for SEAWOLF and COLUMBIA Class



- Engineering Supervisor
  - Opportunity to move into supervision presented itself after 5 years at EB
  - Managed a team of engineers split between hydraulic component development and other large mechanical system design

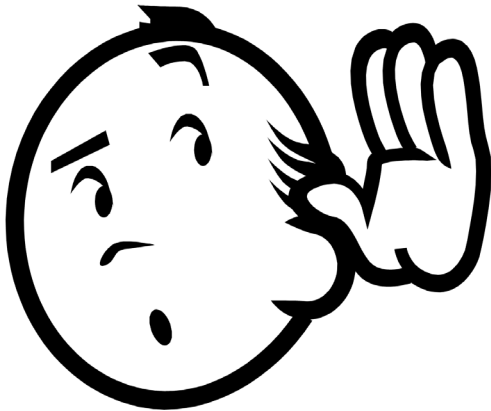
# First Job Experience – General Dynamics Electric Boat

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- What did I learn?

- Listen...

- To the old guard, they've been doing the job longer than you have been alive
    - To the experts, everything is more nuanced than you can imagine
    - To the people who touch the product, their input is invaluable



- Defense contracting is a unique process

- Adjustment from college timelines to large scale engineering projects can be frustrating, measured in years not days or weeks
    - Dollar values are insane... but you learn why quickly
    - Quality > Schedule > Cost

- Managing people is waaay different job...

- Not a single technical question during the interview
    - Be ready to get involved in your employees lives
    - Higher highs and lower lows
    - Time management and decision-making skills need to be a personal strength

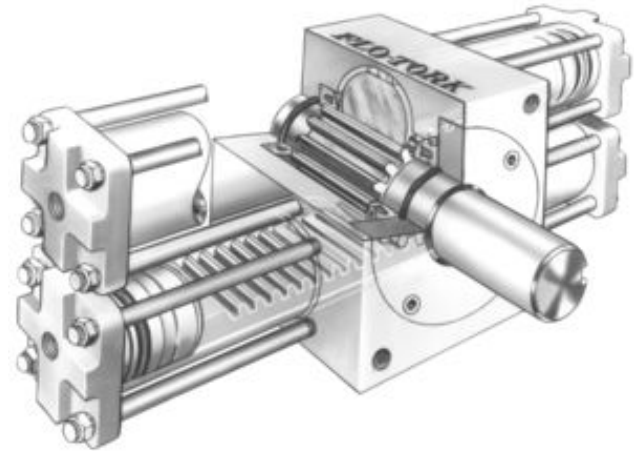




# Current Job at Moog and My Responsibilities

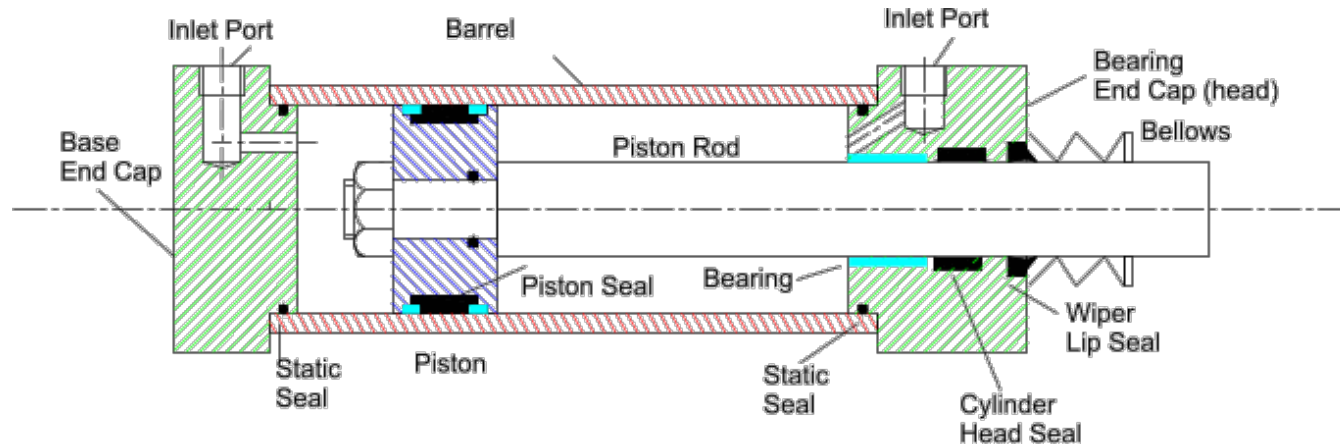
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- Engineering Section Head (*Fancy Supervisor*)
  - Manage a team of design development engineers specializing in linear and rotary hydraulic actuators for submarines
    - Very heavy mechanical engineering analysis and understanding required: nuts, bolts, seals, gears, fluid dynamics and vibrations
    - Emphasis on design for manufacture, assembly and test
  - Responsible for successful design development project performance (quality, schedule and cost), quoting and planning new projects, new product pursuits, technical and career development of personnel



# What Actuator Design Development Takes...

- 6 – 9 Months: Concept design, detailed calculations, creation of final part and assembly drawings



- 8 – 10 Months: prototype unit manufacture, supporting suppliers, fix drawings and address manufacturing issues
- 4 – 6 Months: Qualification testing for performance, endurance, strength and other application specific requirements

## My average day...

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- 8 AM: Morning production status meetings and design group 'stand-up' call
- 10 AM: Supervision activities and/or customer interfacing
- 11 AM: Support active project reviews, participate in technical decision making meetings
- 1 PM: Review and approve work from my group, assign new tasks and projects, provide individual direction or guidance as needed
- 4 PM: Creating and/or reviewing project performance metrics, revising plans and schedules
- 5 PM: Check-in with anyone working late

# What do I look for new engineers in defense?

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- Ownership of Tasks and Projects
  - Do you take full responsibility for the work you do?
  - Are you self motivated and persistent?
- Communication Skills
  - How well can you communicate a technical concept?

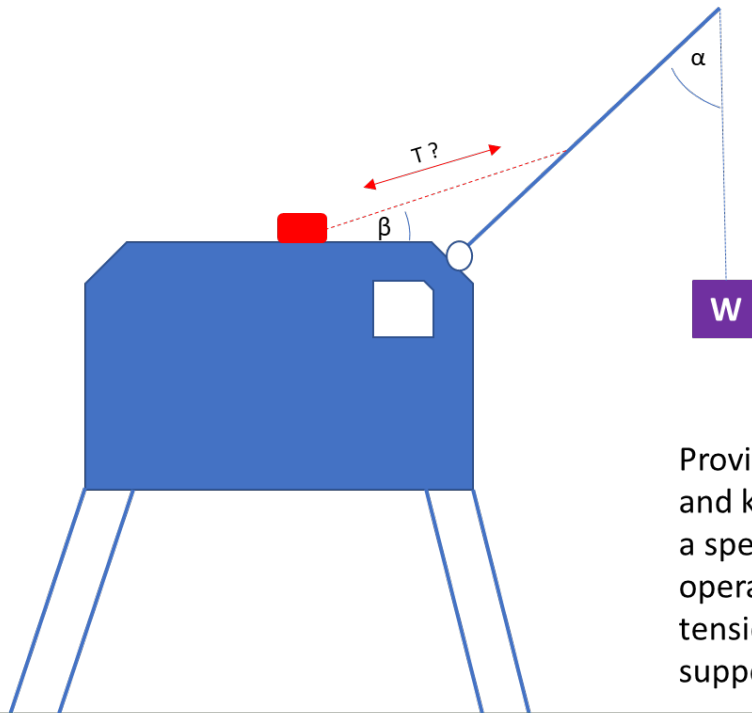


- Attitude
  - Are you someone who will mesh well with my team and our business culture?
- Technical Competency
  - Can you demonstrate an understanding of applicable high level engineering concepts?
  - Are grades in key course areas strong?



# Sample Interview Technical Question

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Provided a known load ( $W$ ) and known angles ( $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ ) at a specific point in a crane hoist operation. Determine the tension ( $T$ ) in the boom support cable.

# **'Borrowed' Questions from Other Presentations**

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- Is it difficult to balance work and social life in this field?
- What inspired you to go into the mechanical engineering field?
- Are there any current or past projects that you are working on that you are at liberty to discuss?
- What was the process like getting to your current position? Were you hired to that position directly or did you climb through the ranks of the company?
- Do you feel as though the job market for an engineering position in this field is competitive?