

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.

