

What a team!

What a team we have here at Glenair. That is the most important thought that comes to mind as I page through this *2016 Design Guide* for interconnect professionals. Because really, how else do you explain the wonderful, relentless output of our engineering, operations and marketing groups? Do our people know how to work together as a team to get things done? You bet they do.

I am particularly gratified at the incredible progress we have made in fleshing out our core interconnect offerings into mission-critical areas such as EMI filtering and EMP/lightning strike solutions, at the absolute “no gap” status we now enjoy in fiber optic interconnect systems, at our growing high-pressure/subsea capabilities, at the growth of our circuit board design and embedded systems group, at the innovation and expertise of our high-speed datalink team, and of course at the ongoing growth and professionalism of our factory operations in Glendale, Chicago, Mansfield and Bologna. Again, this is all due (I believe) to good teamwork and the dedication of our 3000+ member organization.

I really can't think of another company in our industry that is as committed as Glenair to broadening its range of interconnect solutions, and I might add, doing it year-after-year with in-house, organic growth as opposed to mergers, acquisitions and takeovers. I suppose it might be considered naïve or Pollyannaish in some circles to observe that the aggressive, hardball, win/lose tactics other folks use to reach the top effectively robs them of the “good company” and “team-spirit” we enjoy every day here at Glenair. As someone much smarter than me once observed, “it's great to be great, but it's better to be human.” I'll take human every time.

Now don't get me wrong: we aspire to business success and material accomplishment as much as the next guy. It's just that we also believe it is equally important to live a meaningful and satisfying life—and we manage our business accordingly. To accomplish this balance, you need genuine, high-quality relationships; the kind of “good company” that comes by being the right kind of team-mate yourself—trustworthy, authentic, happy, kind, courageous and humble. One of our young summer interns asked me the other day what advice I could give him for a successful career. I hope it doesn't surprise you to learn I told him to simply “give more than you take on every team you are a part of and you will be fine.” Advice, I am happy to say, I see put into practice every day here at Glenair.

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