

JEFF KASTENBAUM

jeff@jhkast.com • (914) 960-3962 • San Francisco, CA

Hands-on Mechanical Engineer with strong knowledge of SolidWorks, design for manufacturing, mechanisms, sourcing, and shipping new products. Effective cross-functional collaborator who builds relationships with teams of engineers, customers, and managers.

EXPERIENCE

Bike and Ski Mechanic, *REI San Francisco*

Apr 2022 – Present

Responsibilities:

- Diagnose and repair complex issues in bicycles, skis, and snowboards.
- Maintain tools and equipment for optimal performance and safety.
- Provide expert customer service and advice on equipment and maintenance.

Key Accomplishments

- Redesigned ski/snowboard tuning process to increase revenue by 80% while improving quality and enhancing shop efficiency.

Director of Engineering for Resharp, *The Hillman Group*

Aug 2019 – Oct 2021

Responsibilities:

- Oversaw the ongoing development of the Resharp kiosk, including design, manufacturing, and product scaling.
- Managed and cultivated the supply chain, including vendor sourcing and procurement.
- Collaborated with interdisciplinary engineering teams (electrical, software) to ensure seamless product integration.
- Led data management and analysis related to product performance and reliability.

Key Accomplishments:

- Spearheaded the redesign of Resharp for increased robustness and DFM-focused improvements, streamlining production processes.
- Established a reliable supply chain, sourcing vendors for a 300+ component BOM.
- Created a production line and obtained CSA compliance, facilitating successful deployment in 900 ACE stores nationally.
- Generated \$2.8M in revenue from 400,000 sharpened knives in 2022, demonstrating commercial success.
- Patent 11850698: Automatic knife sharpening machine with sharpness detection

Director of Engineering, *Resharp*

Jan 2018 – Aug 2019

Responsibilities:

- Led the initial engineering development of a robotic kiosk revolutionizing knife sharpening services.
- Managed sourcing, supply chain, manufacturing, and data management operations in early stages.
- Oversaw a team of three mechanical engineers. Collaborated closely with electrical and software engineers for a holistic product development approach.

Key Accomplishments:

- Pioneered the development of the Resharp concept from the ground up, leading to small-batch production readiness.
- Developed technology sufficiently to attract competitive acquisition offers.
- Patent 10272535: Method for automatically resharping a knife

Teaching Assistant, *Stanford Product Realization Lab*

Sep 2015 – Jun 2017

Responsibilities:

- Supervised students, ensuring safety and providing guidance on tool usage, fabrication, and design.
- Mentored students in an introductory design and manufacturing course.
- Maintained shop equipment for optimal functionality.

Key Accomplishments

- Developed woodworking and wood turning programs to high educational and safety standards.

EDUCATION

Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA

2015 – 2017

M.S. in Mechanical Engineering, concentration in Product Realization

Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA.

2011 – 2015

B.S. in Product Design

SKILLS

- SOLIDWORKS CAD - Expert
- PDM/PLM Management - Proficient
- Design for Manufacturability - Expert
- Prototyping - Expert
- Sourcing and Procurement - Competent
- Python - Competent
- BOM Management - Proficient
- GD&T - Competent

INTERESTS

- Bikepacking: Pedaled over 5,000 miles with over 350,000 feet of climbing on various bike tours since 2016, including a five month trip from Banff to Palm Springs via large sections of the Great Divide Mountain Bike Route, Arizona Trail, and a plethora of remote dirt roads of the Mountain West; the Silk Road Mountain Race in remote Kyrgyzstan in Central Asia; and countless shorter adventures.
- Woodworking: Hobbyist furniture making with a small shop in my basement.
- Zen Buddhism: Decade-long student of meditation in the style of Suzuki Roshi.
- Crafting: Knitting and candlemaking.