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About Me

Hi, I'm Michael Murray, a Senior Mechanical Design Engineer with over 15 years of experience in product development, design for manufacturing (DFM), and cross-functional leadership. I've always been a tinkerer at heart—thanks to my dad, who had me in our little shop from a young age. By high school, I was running my own handyman business, and I've never lost that sense of pride in building things that work.

My Professional Journey

I've worked across industries—medical devices, power products, automation, and consumer goods—solving complex engineering challenges and delivering innovative, manufacturable solutions. I've led teams to develop groundbreaking products like a 3D x-ray positioning system, a robotic neurosurgical microscope, and a pump-to-catheter system for removing arterial calcified lesions. Along the way, I've earned multiple patents, including one for a remotely operated racking device for medium-voltage circuit breakers.

I'm passionate about taking projects from concept to production, ensuring designs are not only creative but also practical and cost-effective. My expertise includes finite element analysis (FEA), rapid prototyping, and CAD design, with a strong focus on meeting regulatory standards like FDA, ISO, and IEC 60601. I've also mentored junior engineers and guided cross-functional teams to deliver results.

Life in California

After a COVID-related layoff, I moved to California, where I met my wife in Santa Barbara. When she got a job in San Francisco, I took on contract roles before joining Swope Design Solutions as a consultant. For the past two years, I've enjoyed the hands-on nature of consulting work, but I'm ready to take on a new challenge where I can lead projects from concept through manufacturing and beyond.

What Drives Me

At my core, I'm a problem solver and a creator. I love the creative side of engineering—coming up with innovative solutions to complex problems—but I also understand that design without manufacturing is more art than engineering. That's why I'm passionate about creating designs that are not only functional and elegant but also manufacturable and cost-effective. I've always believed that the best engineers are those who can balance creativity with practicality, and that's a philosophy I bring to every project I work on.

When I'm not designing or prototyping, you'll find me tinkering with my 3D printers, hiking in the California hills, or writing and recording music and exploring my love for stand-up comedy. I'm also an avid maker, and I'm always working on personal projects that blend my technical skills with my creative passions. Whether it's designing a custom coffee roaster or creating laser-etched wedding coasters, I'm constantly looking for ways to push the boundaries of what's possible.

What's Next

I'm currently looking for new opportunities where I can take on a technical leadership role and guide projects from concept through manufacturing and into next-generation development. I'm particularly interested in working on innovative technologies that have the potential to make a real impact—whether it's in medical devices, automation, or another cutting-edge field. I'm excited to bring my creativity, technical expertise, and leadership skills to a team that values innovation and collaboration.

If you'd like to learn more about my work or discuss a potential project, feel free to reach out or check out my portfolio at linktr.ee/michaeljohnmurray. Let's build something amazing together!