LESTER WEITMAN CONSULTING, LLC lweitman@alum.mit.edu

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Career Summary

Forty years of Ford automotive electrical and electronic product design, testing, manufacturing and field failure analysis experiences. An MIT/6-Sigma Black belt trained systems thinker, designed HVAC, speedometer, electronics, and wiring. Taught automotive electronic module, wiring, connector, battery, starter and alternator engineers the industry standards for design, validation testing and failure analysis methods (Failure Mode Effects Analysis; 8D; Pareto; Statistics; etc.) and ISO 9001 quality compliance disciplines. Worked with engineers using scientific methodology to identify failure cause(s) and develop robust fixes and preventative actions. Attended Supplier manufacturing process reviews, identifying plant improvements.

Now offering Failure Analysis and Forensic Engineering services, identifying culpable party of automotive fires and accidents caused by electrical, electronic modules or wiring due to defects, design flaws or assembly errors. Massachusetts Institute of Technology: BSEE (ME minor), UD Mercy (MIT curriculum): MS in Product Development and Systems Engineering, and UD Mercy: EngD Doctoral coursework completed.

Work Experience

2017 - present

Lester Weitman Engineering Consulting, LLC: Provide Expert Witness and Failure Analysis services for design, manufacturing or assembly defects and preventable errors. My credible and clear Expert Reports and depositions have been key in achieving successful out-of-court settlements for my fire subrogation clients.

Ford Motor Company, Dearborn, MI 1977 – 2017

2001 - 2017

Management Position: Quality / Product Development Process Control, Electrical

+ Guided electronic module, wiring, connector, battery, starter and alternator engineers in development of Failure Mode Avoidance & Design Validation to avoid defects.

+ Audited Field Warranty Data, including NHTSA investigations and recalls, for signs of emerging issues on wiring, instrumentation and climate control electronics. Worked with engineers using scientific methodology to identify proper cause(s) and develop robust fixes and preventative actions.

+ Attended Supplier manufacturing process reviews, identifying plant improvements.

+ An expert in Ford Development Process and Lead ISO 9001 auditor and trainer for Electronics.

1977 - 2001

Design / Development / Systems Engineer: Electrical and Electronics Division

+ Project Manager for cost, quality and timing of electrical product content on the 2000 - 03 Mustang and 1988-90 new car models. Led issues resolutions and presented action plans to management.

+ Led team in the system design and validation of instrument cluster and climate control modules.

+ Identified unacceptable failure modes of initial Sequential Fuel Injection system design and provided alternative system concept, which won the first Henry Ford Technology Award.

+ Lead engineer for Ford's electronic carburetor control modules. Designed hardware and software of 'industry first' Two-Speed Accessory Drive and Diesel Transmission control modules.

+ Developed industry first Lamp Outage detection system using vehicle wiring voltage drops.

Memberships

SAE (Society of Automotive Engineers)
IAAI (International Association of Arson Investigators)
SEAK Experts (www.SeakExperts.com)
ALM Experts (www.ALMexperts.com)

Certificates

6-Sigma Black Belt Exam
Failure Mode & Effects Analysis
Robust Design
Design of Experiments