Esther Walton
Address/Phone/Email

October '07 to Present: Senior Manager Cab Systems, Daimler Trucks North America, Portland, OR
Direct five design groups (30 to 40 engineers and designers) in the development of cab structure, cab exterior trim, mechanisms, and sealing/glazing for Freightliner and Western Star trucks. Also serve as Cab Engineering Champion for both Quality (SPR/FRACAS) and Reliability (RG) processes.

- Successfully led Cab Systems through numerous projects (i.e. 24U, ADR11, ESC, EPA10) while maintaining green metrics.
- Maintained Green metrics for Cab Eng. for FRACAS and RG by diligently tracking and following up with responsible engineers.
- Implemented 20 workplace improvement ideas in 3 years; many applying to all 3 engineering design departments.
- Participated in Cab System Head Group activities and in Lead Engineering project for windshield wipers/washers.

October '05 to October '07: Senior Project Engineer Cab Structure, Daimler Trucks North America, Portland, OR
Managed a group of 18 engineers and designers in the development of the cab structure, door, exterior trim and sealing/glazing for Cascadia. Led cross functional System Development Team responsible for $84 million tooling budget.

- Re-aligned design group to achieve successful validation, release and production launch of Cascadia cab structure.
- Successfully re-built relationships around the organization which were not in good shape when I assumed leadership of the group.
- Consistently recognized by the Program Manager (E2) as one of the top System Development Team Leaders.

June '99 to October '05: Project Engineer Front Exterior, Freightliner LLC, Portland, OR
Supervised a group of 6 to 8 engineers and designers in the development of hoods, bumpers, grilles, fenders and forward lighting. Led cross functional System Development Team.

- Successfully led 6 hood, 4 grille, 3 bumper and 1 forward lighting development projects (M2, CST Facelift, COL 112 and P3).
- Awarded three patents for work on P3; Bumper mounting system still in production, grille shutter system and control system.
- Managed $16 million tooling budget over 4 year program (P3) which came in on time and significantly under budget.

August '98 to June '99: Senior Development Engineer, Cab Structure, Freightliner Corp, Portland, OR
Represented Engineering during manufacturing start up of Argosy cab at TMP after successful validation and production release.

- Worked with Manufacturing Engineering on design and troubleshooting of tooling at integration equipment supplier in Michigan.
- Provided Engineering support for integration equipment at Cleveland TMP during supplier set-up and initial tryouts.

April '97 to August '98: Development Engineer, Cab Structure, Freightliner Corp, Portland, OR
Designed Argosy sidewalls, backwall, roof, upper and lower bunks, and bunk restraints and worked with Mfg. Eng. on prototype build and tooling development.

- Managed the work of 3 to 4 contract designers in designing cab structure components.
- Built strong working relationships with Mfg. Eng. colleagues through weekly project updates and daily prototype build reviews.

June ' 93 to April '97: Senior Design Engineer, Cab Structure, Freightliner Corp, Portland, OR
Designed upper and lower bunks, bunk restraints, rain tray and rain tray drain tubes on the P2 Program.

- Quickly learned Engineering systems/processes and applied them to design effective cab components and systems.
- Served as Cab Engineering's representative on the CATIA First Line of Support team.

April '92 to June '93: Senior Manufacturing Engineer, Mfg. Eng. Tooling, Freightliner Corp, Portland, OR
Evaluated truck components to determine manufacturing processes, completed make/buy decisions and procured tooling from sources nationwide. Worked extensively with Industrial Engineering, Cost Accounting, Purchasing and Changeover groups.

- Achieved highest throughput of jobs of any of the six engineers in the tooling group.
- Implemented the use of CATIA in the Manufacturing Engineering Tooling group for 3D die concept development.

March '85 to April '92: Tooling Engineer, Master Tool & Die Inc, St. Paul, MN
Estimated and designed sheet metal stamping dies, drill jigs and weld fixtures. Purchased materials and did cost accounting.

- Designed the first die at the company with computerized monitoring of the process to detect tool damage or maintenance need.
- Implemented CAD/CAM/CNC through purchase and start-up of 3 axis milling machine, CADKEY and MasterCam software.
- Administered the company's first computer network for cost accounting, estimating, time tracking and other business functions.

June '78 to March '85: Apprentice Tool & Die Maker, Master Tool & Die Inc, St. Paul, MN
Learned the business by working my way up from the bottom and learned how tooling works by building tools.

- Performed shop maintenance then advanced to machinist and then to apprentice tool & die maker.
- Became proficient at operating machine tools; punch press, lathe, mill, grinder, drill press, saws.

MS Engineering Management, Washington State University, Vancouver, WA, 1997, GPA 3.84
BS Mechanical Engineering, University of Minnesota, Institute of Technology, Minneapolis, MN, 1985, GPA 3.73