

# **BIOGRAPHY**



## **Kenneth J. Kutler**

Design Prophet, Munro & Associates, Inc.

With more than 37 years of hands-on automotive Powertrain, vehicle systems, manufacturing and engineering experience, Kenneth Kutler offers Munro & Associates' clients extensive expertise in the emerging principles of Design for Assembly (DFA), Design for Manufacturability (DFM), Lean Design®, Quality Report Card®, Benchmarking and The Product and Process Integrated Wall Process (PPIW).

Ken has led teams in creating conceptual designs to analyze their impact and benefits compared to customer's current products or to their competitor's. Ken assists manufacturing companies in achieving and sustaining long-term success, reducing product costs, enhancing quality, introducing new materials, processes and cutting lead time through the strategic adoption and implementation of concurrent engineering practices. Ken has worked with many clients such as The Boeing Company, Rolls-Royce plc. Aerospace & Defense, Cummins Diesel Engine, Harley-Davidson, Nikon, VW, TATA, Demmer Corp., The Rover Group, Ford Motor Company, Chrysler, JCB Construction Equipment and Case New Holland.

Prior to joining Munro & Associates, Inc., Ken had been a staff engineer at the General Motors Technical Center in Warren, Michigan since 1981. There, he was responsible for training and facilitating computerized product design workshops on a global basis and leading cross-functional teams to improve the manufacturability of current and future Powertrain designs.

While at GM, Ken worked with machine tool suppliers performing DFM on their new tooling equipment. He also worked with GM Electro-Motive Diesel Division doing DFA on a new V-16 engine and on several areas of a new locomotive design.

In addition, he was instrumental in establishing GM's internal Vehicle Quality Audit Process (FFQ), conducting benchmarking and quality assessments on Powertrain systems and complete vehicles.

Prior to this, Ken worked for Chrysler Defense (now General Dynamics) in Sterling Heights, Mich. He began his professional career in the lab at Chrysler Corporation in Highland Park, Mich. in 1976, where he was responsible for testing and assembling future vehicles, engines and components.

A graduate of Motech Automotive Education Center, Ken earned a degree in business management at Northwood University in Midland, Mich. A native of Detroit, he now resides in Leonard, Michigan with his wife and two sons.