Susan R. Nowicki is the Director of Engineering at Northrop Grumman Corporation’s Amherst Systems office located in Amherst, NY. She has over 25 years of experience designing and developing Electronic Warfare systems for the US military and its allies. Susan’s area of technical expertise is in Air Surveillance and Enemy Weapon simulation systems.

Since joining Northrop Grumman in 1989, Susan has held a variety of positions, including Director of Programs for Northrop Grumman’s Combat Training Systems business unit, Director of Systems Engineering and Director of Software Engineering. In her current position as Director of Engineering, she is responsible for all engineering design/development activities and has oversight responsibilities for over 100 engineering personnel.

Susan holds bachelor’s degrees in Computer Science and Mathematics from State University of NY at Geneseo, and a Master of Business Administration (MBA) from Cornell University. She has also completed executive leadership programs at the Wharton School and at Stanford University.

Career Perspectives and Networking Conference
October 6, 2016
Distinguished Speaker
Karianne Gomez, BSIE ’00 is Vice President of Field Strategy and Customer Experience at Pampered Chef. Pampered Chef is the premier direct seller of high-quality kitchen tools that utilizes a network of independent sales consultants to provide a personalized sales experience to the end consumer. Her role is focused on developing and executing the strategy that will drive growth with the field channel and includes customer experience, field training and development and incentives and recognition.

Before Pampered Chef, Karianne spent four years as VP, Strategy with HAVI, a supply chain management and packaging company that helps companies connect across the supply chain, developing the company’s long term strategy to accelerate growth in new industries and with new customers.

Karianne holds an MBA from the Kellogg School of Management and an MEM from the McCormick School of Engineering at Northwestern University. She received her undergraduate degree in Industrial Engineering at the University at Buffalo. She resides in Chicago, IL with her husband and daughter.
Dennis Elsenbeck is the Regional Executive for National Grid’s Western Division and is responsible for representing the Company in public affairs, community relations and network alignment, as well as, the region’s large commercial and industrial customers in terms of energy sales, reliability, service and strategic energy planning. He has held previous positions as Marketing and Sales Director, Regional Manager of the Mohawk Valley Region and Business Services Vice President. Dennis has been employed at National Grid for twenty five years.

Prior to joining National Grid, Dennis held positions in project engineering, project management and product management with United Technologies Building Systems Group and Carrier Corporation.

Dennis holds an Associates degree in Air Conditioning from Mohawk Valley Community College, a Bachelor in Industrial Engineering degree from SUNY Institute of Technology in Utica, a Masters in Business Administration from the University of Rochester and a Masters in Engineering from the University at Buffalo. Dennis also served in the United States Navy as an electrician’s mate Petty Officer 2nd Class aboard the Destroyer Tender USS Sierra AD-18.
Ashok Jain, MBA, PMP, CSEP
Retired VP of Engineering, CTO
Zodiac Aerospace

Ashok recently retired as VP of Engineering, Technology & Program Management at Zodiac Aerospace Oxygen Systems, where he held CTO and COO authority for product strategy – satisfying pent-up demand and resolving former delivery bottlenecks with revised engineering methods including a new test environment, productivity measures, root cause and corrective action tasks, and a switch to systems engineering & program management techniques.

Currently, Ashok started his own independent consulting company “Innovative Business Solution.”

Formerly served as Chief Engineer for the Design Assurance, Airworthiness, & Certification Office of Hamilton Sundstrand Power Systems and a Fellow in Systems Engineering.

In Ashok’s previous role as Fellow, Systems Engineering, and Chief Engineer for Supersonic Jet program at Pratt & Whitney, he headed substantial changes in the business unit environment and transformed systems engineering practices by personally mentoring Fellows, Discipline Chiefs, and Aircraft Installation Specialists.

Ashok earned an MBA in Management from Arizona State University, an MS in Aerospace & Applied Mechanics from the University of Cincinnati, an BS in Aerospace Engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur India. He is credentialed as a Program Management Professional (PMP), Certified Systems Engineering Professional (CSEP), and a Six Sigma Black Belt. Ashok’s hold more than 50 patents and is well known for his innovative approaches to solve complicated business problems.
Mike Sinicropi (MBA '96) was named Executive Director, Safety and Engineering Services for Praxair in 2014. He is responsible for leading a number of global support groups within the engineering and project management organization including global safety, project management office, turbomachinery development & manufacturing, IT applications development, and productivity improvement. In addition, he is responsible for Praxair’s project execution activities in Europe and Russia.

Joining Praxair out of college in 1990 as a R&D engineer, Sinicropi has since held increasingly responsible positions in engineering, project management, corporate strategic planning, marketing and business development. He served as president of Innovative Membrane Systems and the AMKO Service Company, both Praxair subsidiaries. Mike has also held two international assignments with Praxair. First, based out of Shanghai, China where he led Praxair’s Asian business development organization and most recently based out of Olen, Belgium leading its Europe and Russia project execution teams.

Sinicropi holds a Bachelor’s degree in mechanical engineering and an undergraduate certificate in biomedical engineering from the University of Rochester, and a Master’s degree in Business Administration from the University at Buffalo.
Mr. Harrison is Vice President of Engineering and Construction at Transmission Developers, Inc. He is a senior engineering / construction executive with over 30 years of operating experience in diverse markets including power (generation and transmission), industrial gases and petrochemicals.

Bob started his career in the natural gas industry, working as plant supervisor/field engineer in a liquefied natural gas (LNG) plant for a predecessor company to National Grid (NYSE: NGG).

In his most recent role as Vice President, Energy Infrastructure for AECOM (NYSE: ACM), he was recruited to AECOM to assume the operations lead in turning around their unprofitable energy division. In less than three years, it became the fastest growing unit at AECOM.