



Mechanical Engineering
Academy of Distinguished Alumni

N. Binz DeWalch

Distinguished Mechanical Engineer, 2019

BSME, The University of Texas at Austin, 1981

President

DeWalch Technologies, Inc.

Norman "Binz" DeWalch is Chairman and CEO of DeWalch Technologies, Inc. in Houston, Texas. Founded in 1982 by Binz and his father, DeWalch Technologies quickly became a leading manufacturer of specialty meter locking hardware for the prevention of theft from electricity and gas utilities. Today the company is engaged in R&D, serves the utilities security market, and provides contract manufacturing services to the oil and gas market and firearms market for both military and civilian applications.

Binz was born in Houston, Texas in 1958 and graduated from St. Johns School in 1977. His love for science, technology and building new things led him to attend The University of Texas College of Engineering, where he earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering. Binz's early interest in research and development was encouraged by the opportunity to work as a freshman at the Center for Electromechanics at the University.

After college, Binz and his father, Don, founded DeWalch Technologies and began development of a high-security locking system for utility metering. Houston Lighting & Power was the company's first customer, and since that time, the company has developed a full product line that is sold to customers in the U.S., Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean and parts of the Pacific Rim. To properly serve its customers, DeWalch Technologies has also developed extensive engineering and manufacturing capabilities and produces finished product from raw materials in its Houston manufacturing facility. Binz leads the company and works with its engineers on R&D, product design, tooling and automated equipment design to support production.

In 1998, Binz's interest in engineering and molecular biology led the company to enter into a joint development project with the Genome Sequencing Center at Baylor College of Medicine to develop an automated DNA purification system. The system was used for Baylor's sequencing work on the Human Genome Project. Baylor contributed 20% of the sequence data for this project.

Currently, Binz has been involved in several R&D projects. These efforts include development of an electronic locking system for utility applications, development of improved automatic firearm technology for military applications, numerous software applications, 3D wax printing technology, and a major, multi-year development effort of a low capitol cost plant to convert natural gas to synthetic, low sulfur diesel. He currently holds over 75 issued and pending U.S. and foreign patents for locking hardware, molecular biology research equipment, and firearm technology.

Binz served two terms on the Mechanical Engineering Visiting Committee in the early 2000's, and is a 4th generation Longhorn. His wife, great-grandfather, grandfathers, father, mother, brother, in-laws and nephew are all Longhorns, and his oldest son is currently a sophomore ME student at UT. Binz served for several years as an Assistant Scoutmaster for Boy Scout Troop 354 and is involved in numerous organizations in Houston, including the Restoration Committee of Eagle Lake. His love, enthusiasm and appreciation for the wonderful education that he received from The University of Texas runs deep.