

Mechanical Engineering Academy of Distinguished Alumni

Michael N. Hart, P.E. Distinguished Mechanical Engineer, 2018

BSME, The University of Texas at Austin, 1974 MSME, The University of Texas at Austin, 1977

President and Co-founder Energy Engineering Associates

A native Texan, Mike Hart was born in Dallas, Texas, in 1951. His family moved to Austin and Mike attended Reagan High School. Mike continued his education in Austin, attending the University of Texas to receive both his Bachelor's and Master's degrees.

In April 1977, Mike Hart became a co-founder of Energy Engineering Associates, Inc. (EEA) with UT Professors Gary Vliet, Phil Schmidt and Jerold Jones. He purchased the firm from his co-founders in 1980 and has over forty years of experience in the consulting engineering business.

The focus of the firm in its early years was providing energy efficiency and renewable energy consulting which included Department of Energy Institutional Conservation Program site reviews and inspections for 100+ grantees across 10 states. While continuing to focus on energy conservation and efficient design, Mike lead the firm's diversification into existing building engineering services and new building design.

Mike's projects have won a variety of national and regional awards including a US Department of Energy National Energy Award and an E.P.A. Pollution Prevention Award for energy efficiency improvements at the UT-Austin campus, resulting in a 29% reduction in campus energy usage.

Over the last 40+ years, Mike grew EEA into an 80-person firm with offices in Austin, TX, and Albuquerque, NM, and projects located nationwide and beyond. EEA has received the Austin American Statesman's "Top Workplace" Award, which is based solely on the results of an employee feedback survey, each of the 7 years it has submitted.

Mike was extremely proud to complete a 55% stock sale to the EEA Employee Trust, making the firm majority Employee Owned. The Employee Stock Ownership Plan (ESOP) allows every employee owner to have a piece of equity as a retirement plan.

Mike has been active in ASHRAE over the last 40 years, holding leadership positions in all levels of the organization. He is currently serving on the Foundation Committee Board of Trustees and served 3 years as Chairman.