
HOCKEMA GROUP



NAVAL ARCHITECTS ♦ MARINE ENGINEERS ♦ ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS

January 1, 2023
HG G2301

To our Marine Industry Friends:

Happy New Year to all and we wish you and yours a successful 2023!

At the end of 2022, Hockema Group closed out our 25th year and now we are ready to embark on our next 25 years! We will briefly reflect on our firm's 25-year history, herein.

On October 20, 1997, Hal Hockema & Associates began operations in the basement of Hal and Julie Hockema's home in Lake Forest Park WA. Our first job was #9701, a 113' crab boat named Sandra Five. Fred Wahl Marine Construction was our first customer and the builder. The next year would bring more fishing vessel projects, until the American Fisheries Act of 1998 (AFA) was signed into law, causing the entire Alaska and West Coast groundfish industries to put a hold on any major projects. Our phone stopped ringing in August 1998, gulp! Eventually, the AFA would be good for the industry, but for a few years there were very few major fishing vessel projects until the industry was able to sort out the results of the AFA.

In December 1998, Hal received a tip that Manson Construction was starting on a hopper dredge conversion and that their longtime independent naval architect, Bob Long, was retiring. Bob encouraged Hal to interview Manson, and they hired him to work on the M/V Bayport conversion, a former 300' dump scow for which machinery spaces, dredging equipment, and accommodations were added to create a self-propelled hopper dredge. This marked a major turning point in the diversification of our work, for up to that point it had been almost exclusively with fishing vessels. We would go on to do many interesting projects with Manson, including derrick barges and more hopper dredges.

The early 2000s brought back fishing vessel projects after the AFA implementations were fully realized, reducing the fleet size and distributing fishing quotas among the remaining fishing fleet for a more predictable overall fishing economy.

In 2004, Mike Whalen approached Hal to ask that he and Julie buy his company, Fisker-Andersen & Whalen. It was a perfect match, marking another major turn in our diversification. Mike and his predecessor, Jacob Fisker-Andersen, had developed an extensive deck cargo barge design business, from which we still benefit from today. This merger also brought us more fishing vessel and tug boat clients. Mike joined us as Principal Naval Architect at that point.

John Myers joined us in 2005, making an immediate impact on our firm. Mike and Hal used to say, "I think John is going to run this place someday." Of course, John is our President now!

Our profile of work expanded during this time to include small military and workboat craft. The staff expanded also with the addition of Paul Monical and Craig Pomeroy, both experienced naval architects with diverse industry backgrounds.

In 2013, we purchased Jack Gerke's electrical engineering business, and he was to join us as a mentor in his semi-retirement. Unfortunately, Jack passed away soon thereafter. The loss was doubly hard for us, as we lost a very good friend and an industry colleague. We were fortunate to have worked alongside Jack for many years before his passing, not only for his engineering abilities but also for his personable nature.

Mike Whalen retired in 2020 but we remain in regular contact with him. Mike's legacy is engrained in many parts of our firm. We still consult with Mike on various design issues and he remains a good friend to us all.

Over the years, we have added to and improved our Team in a controlled manner, ensuring stability of employment and a diversified range of work. Each new Team member brings new skills and perspective to our firm. Our overall goal for the company Team is to develop good consulting engineers, each having a skillset that includes calculation, design, and effective and friendly communication skills for interacting with fellow colleagues and clients.

2020 and 2021 were challenging years for us, like many other companies, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We were determined to retain all of our staff, and we did, and at the same time expand our service offerings to include 3D laser scanning and structural finite element analysis. The addition of Shannon Potter during this period brought to the company a wealth of contract administration experience.

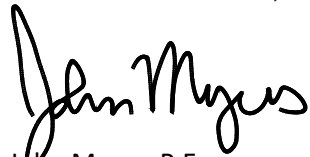
2022 has been a rebound year for us, good all around. The Team added several younger members bringing to us new ideas and energy. Julie Hockema retired in January 2022 but remains our Board Secretary-Treasurer and in a consulting role for the administrative side of the firm. Hal's role has changed to part time with emphasis on design, quality assurance and as management advisor.

While we continue to maintain our office space in the Ballard district of Seattle, our staff is physically located in Washington, Oregon, Illinois, Louisiana, and Wisconsin, offering us easy access to a wide range of clients.

Hockema Group would like to thank all of our industry colleagues for your collaboration, good work and comradery over the past 25 years and we look forward to your continued success!

Thank you and, again, we wish you a successful 2023!

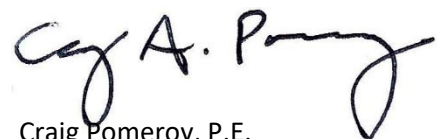
Sincerely,
HOCKEMA GROUP, INC.



John Myers, P.E.
President & Managing Principal



Shannon Potter
Business Manager



Craig Pomeroy, P.E.
Principal Naval Architect



Hal Hockema, P.E.
Chairman

Julie Hockema
Corporate Secretary-Treasurer