

Outlook

"S" Stands for SpeedLine

I wouldn't say I'm easily impressed as a general rule. But it's hard not to be *gobsmacked* at the evolving story of the enterprise we call Glenair. As I write this, we're just a few months shy of our 70th anniversary—a journey I've been proud to be a part of for over 45 years. And what a ride it's been: from a small backshell outfit working out of a couple of old hangars at the Grand Central Airport, to becoming the high-reliability interconnect industry's most trusted supplier—now operating out of over two million square feet of world-class factory space here in Southern California. And by the way, that's not even counting our operations in the UK, Germany, and Italy. "Evolving story" is putting it mildly.

If you're reading this column, you've already got one of the major reasons for our amazing growth right in your hands. By my count, you're looking at over 125 signature interconnect product solutions in this fabulous A-to-Z guide. From AlphaLink to Well-Master, these are the products that are driving our success. But more importantly, they're the solutions tackling our customers' toughest interconnect challenges.

"Doing a job" is an old expression from Glenair founder Marv Borden. By it, he meant interconnect design innovations that solve real-world problems—things like corrosion resistance, miniaturization, ease and speed of assembly, high-temperature operation, and dozens of other tough mechanical, electrical, and environmental issues.

The pace of new product innovation at Glenair has been so rapid for so long even I need a scorecard to keep up. That's one of the reasons I'm so pleased with this new publication. It's all here, in one place: the complete range of Glenair mission-critical interconnect solutions—from backshells to connectors, contacts to cables.

And speaking of cables, let your fingers do the walking and flip to "M" for Mil-Star hookup wire, "B" for BluMark RF cable, or "S" for SpeedLine high-speed solutions. These wire and cable offerings form the foundation for entire ecosystems of related interconnect products—many of which come together as turnkey, integrated assemblies.

It's hard not to get a little sentimental thinking about the incredible history of this special company. I've been around long enough to have known the original founders, and to have worked side-by-side with the first generation of engineers, operators, and marketing pros. What would they say? How would they feel if they could see what Glenair has become?

Gobsmacked. They'd be absolutely gobsmacked.

Chris Toomey

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Publisher

Christopher J. Toomey

Managing Editor

Marcus Kaufman

Art Director/Editor

Mike Borgsdorf

Graphic Designer

George Ramirez

Editor

Ryan O'Shea
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Issue Contributors

Eran Agami
Brian Brown
Simon Coverdale
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Sam Farhat
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Barry Post
Troy Sweet
Ali Yassine

Distribution

Terry White

To subscribe or unsubscribe,
please contact Terry White:
twhite@glenair.com

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GLENAIR, INC.

1211 AIR WAY
GLENDALE, CA 91201-2497
TEL: 818-247-6000
FAX: 818-500-9912
E-MAIL: sales@glenair.com
www.glenair.com

