

Executive Biographies

October 2023



Joe Allison, CEO

Joe joined Evolve in 2022 as the CEO. He has dedicated over 30 years to developing the 3D printing industry by driving new technologies and new materials to meet the requirements of new applications.

He entered the industry, working as an R&D engineer for 3D Systems from 1987-1991. He then worked for 23 years as founder and CEO of Solid Concepts, the largest service provider in the 3D printing sector. After selling Solid Concepts to Stratasys, he served 3 years as CEO of Stratasys Direct Manufacturing. He is now an active investor and advisor to many companies in the Additive Manufacturing space.

Mr. Allison received his Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Southern California, and his 26 years of experience operating a service business and brings an intimate knowledge of customer requirements to the board.



Jeff Blank, COO

Jeff joined Evolve in 2022 as the COO. He is responsible for engineering and operations for the delivery of all products, hardware and software and materials.

Prior to joining Evolve, Jeff spent two decades in the 2D printing industry delivering printers for Tektronix and Xerox Corporation. While at Xerox Jeff was the VP, Entry Products Delivery Unit and Chief Engineer and Architect for inkjet technology development and roadmap. He oversaw products ranging from consumer/desktop printers, to enterprise devices, production printing architectures, and industrial inkjet.

Jeff then moved to 3D Systems where he spent 8 years managing the worldwide engineering organization. His responsibilities included all technology and product development for the 3D Systems portfolio of plastics, metals, software, and materials.

During his professional career Jeff conceived, led, and delivered 40+ products in consumer, enterprise, and business-to-business spaces. As an industry veteran, Jeff has a diverse engineering and business background with a master's in mechanical engineering from Stanford University and MBA from the University of Portland.

EVOLVE ADDITIVE SOLUTIONS

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Jeff Hanson, SVP Go to Market

Jeff joined Evolve in 2022 as SVP of Go to Market. His experience with 3D printing and other additive manufacturing technologies spans almost three decades.

As one of the initial employees of Stratasys, he began working in the early product development, obtaining three patents on Fused Deposition Modeling (FDM) of the hundreds the company holds or has pending.

Jeff co-Founded RedEye on Demand, an industry-leading additive manufacturing parts provider business now branded Stratasys Direct Manufacturing. During that time, he directed sales and marketing, business development and product development teams.

He Innovated and led the management of a Global Manufacturing Network, a cloud connected manufacturing solution with global strategic partners in international markets. As founder of Digital 3D Manufacturing, LLC he consulted the adoption of additive manufacturing solutions to the global manufacturing market.



Melissa Hanson, VP of Marketing

Melissa joined Evolve in 2023 as the VP of Marketing. Melissa is a full-stack marketing executive with over 17 years of experience driving growth for industrial technology companies, including 9 years as a senior marketer in the additive manufacturing industry, by bringing to bear functional expertise in product management and positioning, branding, content strategy and demand generation.

Most recently she served as Chief Marketing Officer at PostProcess Technologies. Prior to that, she was Vice President of Product Marketing at Nexa3D, leading its positioning and commercialization strategy for new 3D printing solutions; and furthermore, has held numerous leadership roles during her tenure at Stratasys where she ultimately led marketing for its Americas region, significantly increasing marketing's contribution to revenue while also leading several M&A integrations - including within Stratasys' parts business.

A self-proclaimed builder at heart with a passion for leading high-performing teams to deliver exceptional value and growth, Melissa is incredibly passionate about uncovering and telling real stories of how additive manufacturing is creating new possibilities, improving lives, and transforming our world for the better.

Melissa holds a BA in Marketing Communications Studies with a minor in Biology from Luther College. She received an Executive Education degree in Strategic Marketing from the University of Minnesota Carlson School of Management.

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John Lees, VP of Engineering

John joined Evolve in 2018 and has 25+ years of leadership experience in product and technology development and manufacturing of industrial production equipment.

As Director of Engineering at Bosch Packaging Technology, led global rationalization of product lines and advanced System Engineering practice.

As VP of Engineering at Optomec, developed micron-scale 5-axis-motion Aerosol Jet printers.

At Tetra Pak, led development of injection molding, recycling, and numerous other technology, manufacturing, and organizational innovations.

John holds a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and M.S. in Management of Technology from Chalmers University.



Dr. Arun Chowdry, SVP Emerging Technologies & Applications

Arun joined Evolve in 2015. He has over 30 years of technology and Commercialization leadership experience from his years at NexPress and Kodak. As CTO & VP of the NexPress JV, Arun led technology and commercialization teams in US and Germany. He helped bring the highest quality and most reliable digital printing press to market in record time. Arun also created a high-value materials business for NexPress.

As Portfolio Director of Kodak's EP Imaging portfolio, he built a 1000+ strategic patent portfolio.

Arun holds a Bachelor of Technology (BTech), Electronics and Electrical Communications Engineering from Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur, and Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering from Johns Hopkins University.

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