

A Legacy of Innovation and Adaptability: Bill Hart's Hutchinson Journey

When Bill Hart first walked through the doors of what was then Barry Controls in 1995, he couldn't have predicted that nearly three decades later, he'd still be here—leading, innovating and mentoring at what is now Hutchinson.

A Massachusetts native with a background in structural engineering, Bill joined the company after several years working on submarine components for a major defense contractor. Attracted by an ad in the *Boston Globe*, he found a new home at Barry Controls, drawn to its mission and inspired by its people.

“There were legends in the industry working here—brilliant engineers who knew the science backward and forward,” Bill recalls. “It was a pleasure and a privilege to learn from them.”

Starting as a project engineer, Bill's early work focused on solving complex vibration and noise challenges for military and aerospace customers. Over time, he expanded into other markets, steadily moving up through engineering management roles. His resume includes leadership in both engineering and quality, experience with continuous improvement projects, and responsibility for legacy product lines as well as applications engineering.

But what stands out most to Bill are the milestones that connect Hutchinson's products to real-world impact.

“One of the programs I'm most proud of involved isolators for smart weapons,” he says. “These systems need to be incredibly precise to protect both service members and civilians. Our isolators ensure those systems remain accurate—even under extreme conditions.”

That theme—ensuring critical systems survive and perform in harsh environments—runs throughout Bill's work. Whether it's military ground vehicles, construction equipment or agricultural machinery, he's helped design and deliver products that protect vital components, reduce wear and tear, and improve operator comfort.

“You may not see our products,” Bill says, “but you see what they protect—cameras in space, guidance systems, engines, electronics. Our work helps people do their jobs better, safer and more efficiently.”



Bill's influence extends beyond technical contributions. As Hutchinson evolved, merged divisions and embraced new technologies, he played a key role in shaping its culture of adaptability and collaboration.

"Hutchinson has always encouraged people to stretch their skills and explore new roles," Bill explains. "Opportunities found me as much as I found them."

His current role combines deep institutional knowledge with a hands-on approach to solving customer problems. He also supports cross-division collaboration, bringing together expertise from across Hutchinson to meet evolving customer needs—from legacy systems to cutting-edge solutions.

The company's nimble structure and people-first culture, Bill says, are key to why he's stayed.

"This isn't the kind of work you can hand off to just anyone. We invest in our people because what we do is specialized. We respect that expertise, and we grow it."

At Hutchinson, no two days are alike. In any given week, Bill might be working on components for off-road vehicles, unmanned aerial systems or spacecraft—sometimes all at once.

"That's what makes it exciting," he says. "We get to touch every industry—transportation, defense, aerospace, agriculture, you name it—and apply our knowledge in meaningful ways."

Looking back, Bill sees his success not only in the products he's helped build, but in the people he's worked with and the challenges he's helped solve.

"It's satisfying to know that something I worked on helps someone else do their job better—whether that's a technician in the field, a service member overseas or a farmer in the Midwest. That's the heart of engineering."