
Robert P. Birtalan – Professional Bio

Robert Paul Birtalan was born in Salem Ohio in 1951 where he lived until 1982. Robert graduated from Salem Senior High School in 1969 and in addition to his diploma he also earned a certificate for the successful completion of a 2-year vocational drafting program attended during his junior and senior years of high school. Upon graduation Robert studied Mechanical Engineering at the Youngstown Technological Institute and began working in heavy industry at Deming Division of Crane Corporation where he worked until 1982 in a variety of positions as machinist, mechanical maintenance and industrial electrical repair. During this period Robert completed in excess of 200 hours of classroom education with The Ohio State University Labor Education and Research Service and the Walter J. Burke Labor Education Center and completed an Automated Computer Control course with the Warner and Swasey Machine Tool Company while working full time at the Deming Company. Also during this same period Robert completed a four-year US Department of Labor Apprenticeship program consisting of 720 classroom hours and 8000 hours of on the job training with a Journeyman and graduated as a certified Journeyman - Industrial Electrical Repair.

In 1982 Robert relocated to Jacksonville Florida and began working at Atlantic Drydock Corporation as a 1st Class Electrician. During his 30 year career at Atlantic Robert was continually promoted and held positions as Electrician, Technician, Leaderman, Foreman, Coordinator, Sub-Contracts Administrator, Project Manager, Production Manager and Vice President. The Company was sold twice during this period and Robert retired in 2012 from the current owner, BAE Systems, as the Director of Operations Mayport. Robert continued supplementing his relative education while at the shipyard by continually attending hundreds of hours of classes with the American Management Association, University of North Florida, American Bureau of Shipping, Lloyds Register, Heger Dry Dock Inc. and others. Courses of study included Management, Leadership, Team Building, Finance and Accounting, Planning and Scheduling, Government Contracts, ISO 9000 Certification and Quality Management, ABS Certification, Dockmaster's Training, etc. Throughout his career at the shipyard Robert has been responsible for all aspects of ship repair and has successfully managed a shipyard and projects over \$100 M. and 500-700 employees. Of note was the Project Management of the Navy Lighterage at Atlantic, the conversion of the MV Tarago to the USS Harry L. Martin a Military Sealift Command Pre-Position vessel, the successful fixed price modernization of the USS Philippine Sea (CG-58), the 2003 USS John F. Kennedy overhaul which was the largest Navy ship overhaul ever performed outside of a Naval Shipyard.

After retirement Robert continues to be involved in the ship repair industry by providing consulting services with his business, Birtalan Production Consulting LLC. This business provides consulting to shipyards in the areas of Planning, Scheduling, Production Controls, Management, Leadership, Contracts, Negotiations as well as Productivity and Financial Analysis and Control. Robert has also partnered with Mr. Robert Gibbs in the purchase of The St. Johns Marine Group which consists of 3 companies located at 9852 Heckscher Drive, Jacksonville Florida. W&D Ship Deck

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Works Inc., which performs a variety of repairs and refurbishments to Navy and Marine Corps vessels, Dixie Towing which owns and operates tugs providing tug boat, diving and salvage services and St. Johns Boat Co. which provides hauling, launching repair and refurbishment services to a variety of Navy, Coast Guard, commercial and private vessels make up the St. Johns Marine Group.

Industry and Professional involvement;

- **Founding President of the Jacksonville Area Ship Repair Association (JASRA)**
- **Past President of the Northside Business Leaders**
- **Past Professional Society Member of; The Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers (SNAME), The American Society of Naval Engineers (ASNE), The Society of Protective Coatings (SSPC), Jacksonville Marine Transportation Exchange (JMTX), The Propeller Club of the United States Port of Jacksonville, First Coast Manufacturers Association, NAVSEA Joint Industry Navy Improvement Initiative (JINII), National Shipbuilding Research Program (NSRP), Navy SHIPWAY Cross Functional Barrier Removal Team**

Community involvement;

- **Past President of Harbour Island Community Association**
- **Board member and past President of the Harbour Waterways Association**
- **Chairman of the Harbour Waterways Special Tax District**
- **Member Florida Association of Special Districts**
- **Current member of the Jacksonville Waterways Commission**
- **Past Board member of Epilepsy Foundation of Northeast Florida**
- **Past Member of the 12th Man Athletic Booster Club – Terry Parker High School**
- **Volunteer work at the Grasp Choice Academy**
- **Fund Raising Activities for; Toys for Tots – US Marine Corps, Ronald McDonald House, Autism Speaks**