

Central Pennsylvania Engineers Week Council  
National Engineers Week 2009  
Young Engineer of the Year Award

Jason E. Piatt has been named Young Engineer of the Year by the Central Pennsylvania Engineers Week Council. Mr. Piatt is the president of Praestar Technology Corporation headquartered in Waynesboro, Pennsylvania that he and his father co-founded in 2001.

Mr. Piatt was born in Danville, Pennsylvania and raised in Waynesboro, Pennsylvania. He is the son of Angela and the late James E. Piatt. Jason Piatt earned a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering with Minors in Mathematics and Physics from Bucknell University. He also earned a Master of Science in Electrical Engineering from Bucknell and a Master of Business Administration with Distinction from Mount Saint Mary's University. Mr. Piatt has also completed additional graduate education at the University of Wisconsin – Madison, University of Michigan, and The University of Pennsylvania – Wharton School. Mr. Piatt is a Senior Member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) and a member of Sigma Xi Research Society.

Over his twelve year career, Mr. Piatt has been involved in various aspects of engineering. As an Electronics Engineer for the Advanced Technology Group at TB Wood's, Mr. Piatt was responsible for development of new motor control techniques, miniaturization of electronic designs, and human-machine interface issues. He also served as Program Manager of the Application-Specific Drives group at TB Wood's before launching Praestar Technology Corporation. As president of Praestar, Mr. Piatt has had the opportunity to lead multinational engineering and operations efforts for leading Fortune 500 companies as well as smaller firms. These efforts have included Lean Manufacturing, Six Sigma, embedded control system and application-specific inverter design and manufacturing.

Besides his industrial responsibilities, Mr. Piatt has served as an instructor of Electrical Engineering Technology, Mathematics, and Physics for Pennsylvania College of Technology and an instructor of Management and Finance for Penn State Mont Alto. Mr. Piatt also tutors at-risk students in Mathematics at Penn State and has provided advising and mentoring to engineering students at various campuses of Penn State. He has had the opportunity to advise legislators on the topic of electronics design and manufacturing and is a recognized expert witness in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Court of Common Pleas for RADAR and Speed Enforcement issues.

Mr. Piatt has presented papers at various academic and industrial conferences throughout the United States. He has been an invited lecturer at Penn State Harrisburg, the IEEE Applied Power Electronics Conference in Miami Florida, National Manufacturing Week in Chicago Illinois, the Conference on Information Sciences and Systems at Johns Hopkins University, and Princeton University.

In addition to his professional responsibilities, Mr. Piatt is also active in his community. He is a member of the Board of Directors of Waynesboro Country Club, Alexander Hamilton Memorial Free Library, the Waynesboro Industrial Development Corporation (WIDC), and the Rotary Club of Waynesboro. In his capacity as Director of the Rotary Club of Waynesboro, Mr. Piatt has overseen the distribution of dictionaries to every third grader in the Waynesboro Area School District, helped organize educational partnerships between Rotary and the Future Business Leaders of America, and spoken to high school students about Engineering as a profession.