

HONORING BLACK HISTORY MONTH



This month we are celebrating Black History Month by honoring the many achievements of African Americans and their central role in U.S. history. One legendary African American engineer we find particularly inspiring is Otis Boykin. Boykin is known for inventing an essential component of the pacemaker – the control unit that identifies the number of pulses per minute the patient needs. This invention was particularly important to him as his mother passed away from heart failure when he was a young child. He spent his life focused on engineering new technologies and had 26 patents at the time of his death in 1982.

Otis Boykin inspires us because we share in his passion for creating medical devices that can save lives. From producing surgical tubing for important procedures to anesthesia bellows used in NICUs – we are grateful to continue his legacy!

TEAMWORK



There are countless reasons for projects to stall: Lack of resources. Supply chain problems. Not enough time.

But there are two ways they get done: Resilience...and teamwork.

Here's an example. In May of 2022, a company came to us to make food grade tubing for one of their bag-in-box dispensing products – a product line we are adept at producing.

However, the specs for this project required some variations, including different raw materials. Today's world of supply chain demands and limitations make only the most proactive companies nimble enough to change course so quickly. [Read how we overcame this challenge as a team! >](#)

KEP RECOGNIZED FOR INNOVATION

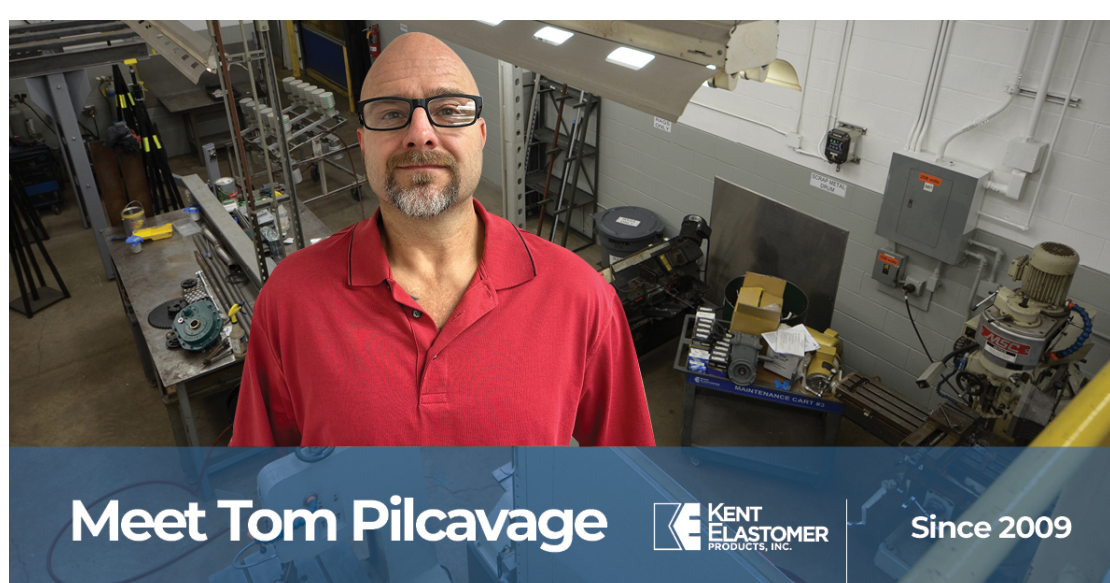


KEP was proud to be named a 2023 Smart Business Evolution of Manufacturing Honoree! Our great Team Members are to thank, because it is they who live and breathe our culture of accountability and continuous improvement in everything we do!

After the labor market navigated the hardships of COVID-19, record-high inflation, "quiet quitting," and rumblings of recession – we are proud to be a manufacturer that stepped up to keep the industry going AND growing!

[Learn how KEP contributed to that growth! >](#)

DEDICATED AND HARDWORKING



Tom Pilcavage has worked at our Kent facility for 14 years in Electrical Maintenance. In his job, Tom is in charge of the upkeep and improvement of our facility, always making sure production is maintained!

Tom's favorite day at work is one where there are minimal breakdowns and he can focus on fabricating new systems that will improve the facility. [Learn more about Tom >](#)

WE LOVE TO CELEBRATE ANNIVERSARIES



We are full of love for our February team member's anniversaries! Maybe we sound like a broken record – but KEP truly wouldn't be who we are today without these hardworking employees. Thank you to **Cheri Thompson**, our Director of Winesburg Operations, for your 37 years of service to KEP! We are incredibly grateful for your leadership at our Winesburg facility. Congratulations also to **Mark McCune** from Kent on 33 years with our team! And finally, we'd like to welcome **Tyler Kaehne** to KEP – congratulations on completing your first year here!

[Read about the rest of our February anniversaries >](#)

CARING & TRUSTED - THE KEP SALES SUPPORT TEAM



One of the many things that makes KEP stand out from the rest is our superior customer service! When you contact KEP, you will always hear from a REAL person within 24 hours. We know how important trustworthy communication is to our customers, so we make it a top priority. Below is some feedback Kent Sales Support Specialist Karly Rice received after working with a customer:

“It is great working with you, particularly in the current climate where it is difficult to get a straight answer about almost anything. It's refreshing to find other people and businesses who take pride in what they do and care about their clients.”

STAY IN THE LOOP



Follow us on LinkedIn and Facebook to get the latest KEP news and stories throughout the month!

