



Sloan Career Cornerstone Center

Profiles of Physicists



Marshall Burns

**President
Ennex Fabrication Technologies**

Education:

B.S. -- Physics; Massachusetts Institute of Technology
PhD -- Physics; University of Texas, Austin

Job Description:

President of his own company, developing automated fabricators - devices that generate three-dimensional solid objects under computer control.

Advice to Students:

"The advantage of working for yourself is independence, freedom to explore your own direction."

Comments:

"Starting my own company in automated fabrication was not what I started to do. You know, I'm not exactly sure when I crossed the line, that I was no longer looking for a job."

Video Transcript 1:

"Automated fabrication is a field of technologies that generate three dimensional solid objects under computer control. Now, in automated fabrication, in this industry we make machines call fabricators. Now a fabricator is like a computer printer except, instead of printing on flat sheet of paper, it prints in solid material. So you get objects that come out of your fabricator, instead of a picture that you get from a printer, you get a solid object."

Video Transcript 2:

"Starting my own company in automated fabrication was not what I started to do. You know, I'm not exactly sure when I crossed the line, that I was no longer looking for a job. Even after I hung out a shingle and put out the name Ennex Fabrication Technology, I was still essentially looking for a job and available for a job if the right company with the right people had said, "We like your approach to this industry, we'd like you come and be part of our team," I would have closed down Automated Fabrication and gone to work with the company. But that didn't happen, so I just kept going with Ennex Fabrication."

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Video Transcript 3:

"The advantage of working for yourself is independence, freedom to explore your own direction. Yes, some people think that freedom and what's wonderful about freedom is like lying back on a lounge chair. Or maybe freedom is about relaxing. And to me freedom isn't about relaxing at all, to me freedom is about exploring. You know, what's the opposite of freedom? If freedom is relaxing, then the opposite of freedom is working. And I'm an explorer. I'm an adventurer."

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