

Legendary Career, Quiet Departure: John Zahn Retires After 27 Years



On November 25th, the day before Thanksgiving, John Zahn quietly closed the door on a remarkable 27-year career at MSC, leaving almost to the day he started, November 23, 1998.

If you know John, the low-key exit was entirely in character. He isn't one for fanfare or long goodbyes. But make no mistake: his impact here was anything but quiet.

As a Senior Sales Engineer, John built a reputation as one of the sharpest minds in the company. When he spoke, in his characteristically rapid-fire, straight-talking style, people listened. He has that rare combination of technical brilliance, sales instinct, and dry wit that made him invaluable to clients and colleagues alike. Whether designing straightforward equipment replacements or tackling intricate design/build projects, he understood exactly what customers needed and how to deliver it. Frequent doses of his wry humor made even the toughest technical challenges more manageable.

John announced his retirement plans last year and committed himself to the sales goal MSC set for him in 2025. By March, he had already blown past it. We all joked that he could coast to the finish line, but John being John, he sprinted through it. His final numbers demolished his target, finishing at nearly 250% of goal. Even in his final chapter, he showed everyone how it's done.

John's last year at MSC was marked by both extraordinary achievement and deep personal loss. Even then, he carried himself with the same dedication and professionalism we've always known.

John is quick, blunt, and razor-sharp. He doesn't waste words, and half the time those words come out faster than you can keep up. People like him because he's the real deal. He's never looking to be the center of attention, but you know you can always trust him to deliver. We miss you, John. Go enjoy this next chapter — you've more than earned it.

MSC Holiday Party 2025





