CEO'S MESSAGE

The Coolest Thing We Ever Made: Chris's THOR200 Story

As our *"Coolest Thing We Ever Made"* series continues, a common theme has emerged: the projects that leave the strongest impressions are usually the ones that challenge us to stretch beyond our comfort zone. They require new ideas, new skills, and a willingness to learn through experience.

This month's story comes from **Chris Steinman**, who selected the **THOR200 Steerable Running Gear Development Project** for HDT Global as the coolest project he worked on during his time at MGS.



The Project

The THOR200 project was much more than a trailer design. It involved the complete development of a new **steerable running gear system** intended to support aerospace ground support equipment used in **United States Air Force** operations. The work encompassed every phase of product development, including concept design, engineering, prototype fabrication, testing, validation, and preparation for production.

The effort took place primarily during 2015, culminating in a rigorous durability testing program conducted at Penn State's Larson Transportation Institute (LTI) in October of that year.





A Challenge Worth Taking On

What made the project so compelling was its complexity. The customer required a military-grade steerable running gear capable of meeting demanding transportability and **AS8090** requirements while safely carrying a **10,000-pound load** in challenging operating environments. Meeting those requirements called for innovative engineering, extensive testing, and close collaboration across engineering, manufacturing, suppliers, and the customer. Chris served in an engineering leadership role throughout the project, helping coordinate design reviews, test planning, risk management, supplier activities, customer communications, and validation efforts.



Putting Design to the Test

One aspect that made the THOR200 project particularly memorable was the extensive real-world testing program. The MGS team developed a comprehensive test plan and brought the equipment to Penn State's accredited transportation research facility, where the running gear accumulated more than **700 miles of track testing** along with accelerated durability evaluations while carrying its full rated load. The test program intentionally subjected the equipment to conditions far more severe than it would typically encounter in normal service. Along the way, the team experienced tire failures, identified wear points, and even encountered a drawbar-related failure during a special testing maneuver. Rather than viewing these issues as setbacks, the team treated them as opportunities to improve the product. Each discovery helped strengthen the final design and increase confidence that the running gear would perform reliably in the field.

Lessons from the Track

For Chris, the project reinforced an important engineering principle: **There is no substitute for real-world testing.** Computer models and engineering calculations play a critical role in product development, but there is something uniquely valuable about seeing a product perform under demanding conditions. The testing program uncovered improvement opportunities that would have been difficult to predict otherwise and ultimately resulted in a stronger final product. The experience also provided valuable lessons in steerable running gear design, military equipment requirements, durability testing, supplier development, and cross-functional teamwork.



The Stories Behind Success

Like many memorable projects, the THOR200 program came with a few stories that still bring a smile. Before testing began, Bob De Kruyff, an engineering manager with experience at U-Haul and General Motors, offered some advice: “However many tires you plan on bringing, bring more!” As it turned out, his prediction was spot on. The tires experienced far more punishment than anyone expected and became the most frequently replaced components during testing. Chris also remembers the setting itself. The Penn State test track sits in rural Centre County, surrounded by farms and wildlife. Daily drives to the facility included sightings of rabbits, deer, and groundhogs, creating an interesting backdrop for a highly technical military development project. Fortunately, all those visitors stayed clear of the test track.

Why This Story Matters

At the conclusion of the test program, the team determined that the THOR200 running gear had successfully met the established criteria and was qualified to satisfy both customer and MGS expectations. For Chris, the project embodies many of the qualities that define the “coolest” things we build at MGS: challenging requirements, technical innovation, teamwork, hands-on problem solving, and the satisfaction of seeing a completely new product move from concept to production. As we’ve seen throughout this series, the coolest projects come in many forms. Some help deliver clean drinking water. Some support critical infrastructure. Others serve emergency response needs or push the boundaries of engineering.

The THOR200 project reminds us that when talented people come together around a difficult challenge, the result can be something that continues to stand out years later.

UFS DIVISION

Whites Welding partnership drives UFS success with One Gas



Some of you may remember our relatively new relationship with Whites Welding, a company selected as a UFS Division partner because its equipment fills gaps in our product offering. One such product is an increasingly popular vacuum excavator with applications across all UFS product categories. The unit combines a powerful vacuum with a water lance that loosens soil and debris, enabling utility crews to perform potholing during underground gas and electric installations as well as a variety of cleanup operations. Excavated material is collected in a trailer-mounted tank and transported to a disposal site for safe remediation. The Whites Welding unit offers several distinctive features and has proven to be an asset for utility construction crews.

In August, Kevin Cummins sold three of these units to One Gas locations in Texas. The 1,000-CFM units were hot-dip galvanized to increase their service life in the field, and the combined value of the three-unit sales exceeded $500,000. The trailers were delivered to Mineral Wells, El Paso, and Galveston. During September, Kevin spent several weeks participating in on-site in-service training with Whites Welding staff, demonstrating the trailers and answering users' questions. This sale was instrumental in advancing our goal of developing sales in Texas. Congratulations to Kevin for closing this important sale and moving the UFS Division closer to that goal.





RETAIL DIVISION

While vacationing with family and friends in the Poconos last Friday, September 25, Romaine Martin, our Trailer Products Sales Support for the PA Division, checked an exciting experience off her bucket list — **driving a race car at the famous Pocono Raceway!**

Through the **Stock Car Racing Experience**, Romaine finally had the opportunity to do something she's wanted to try for years. She got behind the wheel and took to the track, reaching speeds of **more than 100 mph!**

What an unforgettable way to spend a vacation — congratulations to Romaine for turning a longtime wish into an incredible experience!







2026 Fall Fitness Challenge

Team Step Challenge

Compete in teams to see which team can have the most steps.
Kicking off mid September until Thanksgiving.



Look out for an email and physical flyers around the buildings with dates for information sessions and kickoff.

SPONSORED BY MGS WELLNESS COMMITTEE

CURRENT OPEN POSITIONS

Join the MGS team - Pennsylvania and Colorado opportunities

LOCATION	POSITION
Pennsylvania	Sheet Metal Fabrication Machine Operator - 3rd Shift
Pennsylvania	P&S Plasma Operator – 1st Shift
Pennsylvania	Welder Fitter/Fabricator – 1st & 3rd Shift
Pennsylvania	Weld Co-op Student – 1st Shift
Colorado	Welder Fitter/Fabricator – Manufacturing
Colorado	Trailer Service Tech – Trailer Sales
Colorado	Service Tech – Truck Fitting
TOTAL CURRENT OPENINGS	**7**

Please contact Human Resources if you are interested in a position.

EMPLOYEE REFERRAL BONUS: $1,000

New Hire Resolution

PA

Matthew Walton

OEM Account Manager - Sales

START DATE: **9/21/26**

REPORTS TO: **Clay Golden**

CO

James Alexander

Trailer Technician - Trailer Sales

START DATE: **9/14/26**

REPORTS TO: **Chris Lee**

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OCTOBER SAFETY

WORKING TOGETHER FOR A SAFER TOMORROW

THIS MONTH'S FOCUS



SITUATIONAL AWARENESS
Be alert and aware of your surroundings.

FORKLIFT & MATERIAL HANDLING
Operate equipment safely and follow all procedures.

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)
Wear the right PPE for the job.

PREVENTING SLIPS, TRIPS & FALLS
Keep work areas clean and organized.

WEATHER & SEASONAL SAFETY
Shorter days and changing weather bring new risks — be prepared.

FALL SAFETY TIPS

- Follow Safety Procedures
- Look for Hazards
- Keep Walkways Clear
- Wear Required PPE
- Watch Out for Each Other



SEASONAL SAFETY REMINDERS

- Be extra attentive while driving with shorter daylight hours.
- Prepare for changing weather conditions.
- Check your home for fall hazards (leaves, wet surfaces, lighting).
- Take the same safety habits home that you use at work.

A *Safe Team* BUILDS A STRONGER MGS!

MGS INCORPORATED

Fall IN SEASON RECIPES

Delicious Seasonal Flavors for Cooler Days



Butternut Squash & Apple Soup

A creamy, comforting soup with the natural sweetness of butternut squash and apples — perfect for crisp fall evenings.

Ingredients

- 2 tbsp olive oil
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 (3 lb) butternut squash, peeled, seeded and cubed
- 2 apples, peeled, cored and diced (such as Honeycrisp)
- 4 cups chicken or vegetable broth
- 1/2 tsp ground cinnamon
- 1/4 tsp ground nutmeg
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 1/2 cup heavy cream (or half-and-half)
- 1 tbsp maple syrup (optional)
- Fresh thyme or sage for garnish

Directions

1. In a large pot, heat olive oil over medium heat. Add onion and garlic; sauté until softened, about 3–4 minutes.
2. Add butternut squash, apples, broth, cinnamon and nutmeg. Bring to a boil, then reduce heat and simmer for 20–25 minutes, or until the squash is tender.
3. Use an immersion blender to puree until smooth (or blend in batches).
4. Stir in cream and maple syrup, if using. Season with salt and pepper to taste.
5. Serve hot, garnished with fresh thyme or sage.



Maple Dijon Pork Chops with Apples

Tender, juicy pork chops with a flavorful maple Dijon glaze and sweet, caramelized apples — a simple and delicious fall favorite.

Ingredients

- 4 bone-in or boneless pork chops (about 1-inch thick)
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 2 tbsp olive oil
- 2 apples, sliced (such as Honeycrisp or Fuji)
- 1 small onion, sliced
- 1/4 cup pure maple syrup
- 2 tbsp Dijon mustard
- 1/2 cup chicken broth
- 1 tsp fresh thyme (or 1/2 tsp dried)
- 1 tbsp butter
- Fresh parsley for garnish (optional)

Directions

1. Season pork chops with salt and pepper.
2. In a large skillet, heat olive oil over medium-high heat. Cook pork chops for 4–5 minutes per side, until golden brown and cooked through. Remove from skillet and set aside.
3. In the same skillet, add onions and apples. Cook for 4–5 minutes, until softened.
4. Stir in maple syrup, Dijon mustard, chicken broth and thyme. Bring to a simmer and cook for 3–4 minutes.
5. Return pork chops to the skillet. Spoon the sauce and apples over the top. Add butter and let it melt into the sauce.
6. Serve warm, garnished with fresh parsley if desired.

MGS INCORPORATED

LOCAL FALL EVENTS

Community fun in Pennsylvania & Colorado

Here are a few upcoming events to enjoy this season.

COLORADO



Fort Collins Open Streets
October 18

A car-free community event with walking, biking, music, food and family fun.



FoCo Fall Fest
October 9–11

A free downtown fall festival with local makers, food, music and family activities in Old Town Square.



Treatsylvania
October 23–25

A not-so-spooky Halloween event at The Farm with trick-or-treating and family fun.

PENNSYLVANIA



Manheim Community Farm Show
October 5–9

A Lancaster County tradition featuring agriculture, exhibits, food and family activities.



8th Annual Discover Denver
October 10

Celebrate local businesses, community spirit and small-town fun in Denver, PA.



Happy Hauntings at Dutch Wonderland
October 31

Kid-friendly Halloween fun with seasonal entertainment and family attractions.



Field of Screams
From Now to November 13

A thrilling haunted attraction experience for those who love spooky season.



PA Renaissance Faire
September 26 through October 25
Saturdays & Sundays

Step back in time for themed weekends, entertainment, food and artisan shopping.



Brecknock Orchard Fall Festivals
October 9–10, October 12, October 17, October 24 & October 31

Enjoy orchard fun, fall treats and seasonal family activities.

Enjoy the season and support local events!

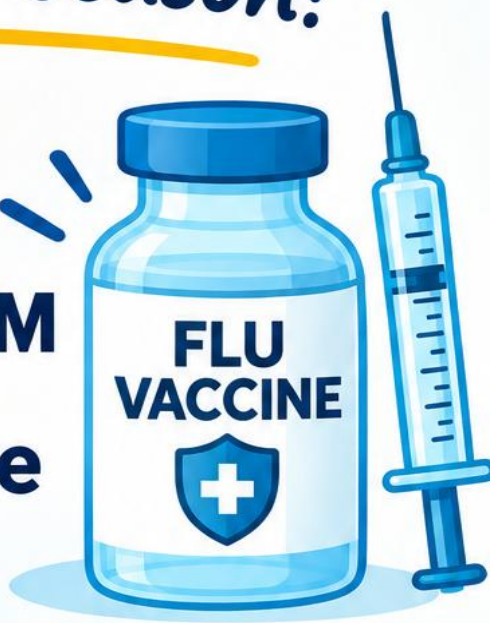
Flu CLINIC

Stay healthy this season!

October 7th

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Barn Conference Room



To register, contact **Tracy Roseberry in HR.**

Sign up is required by 10/5.



MGS INCORPORATED

EMPLOYEE APPRECIATION LUNCHEON

AT MGS, OUR SUCCESS IS BUILT ON YOUR HARD WORK, DEDICATION, AND COMMITMENT. PLEASE JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL LUNCHEON AS A SMALL TOKEN OF OUR APPRECIATION!

PA 1ST SHIFT	PA 3RD SHIFT	PA WEEKEND	CO LOCATIONS
THURS	THURS	FRI	THURS
10/8	10/8	10/9	10/8
NOON	7:00PM	NOON	NOON
SHIPPING DOCK	MAIN BUILDING BREAK ROOM	MAIN BUILDING BREAK ROOM	EACH FACILITY'S BREAK ROOM

MGS INCORPORATED

OCTOBER HOLIDAYS & OBSERVANCES

OCTOBER IS
MANUFACTURING MONTH
CELEBRATING THE PEOPLE, INNOVATION AND INDUSTRY THAT KEEP OUR WORLD MOVING.

OCTOBER 2

Manufacturing Day
A day to recognize and celebrate the impact of manufacturing and the dedicated people who make it all possible.

OCTOBER 12

Columbus Day / Indigenous Peoples' Day
A day to reflect on history, explore different perspectives and appreciate the diverse cultures that shape our nation.

OCTOBER 13

U.S. Navy Birthday
Celebrating the service, strength and dedication of the U.S. Navy and all who serve.

OCTOBER 16

Boss's Day
A day to recognize and appreciate great leaders who inspire, support and make a difference every day.

OCTOBER 16

World Food Day
A global day to raise awareness about food security and the importance of nutritious, sustainable food for all.

OCTOBER 24

United Nations Day
Celebrating global cooperation and the ongoing efforts to create a more peaceful, prosperous and sustainable world.

OCTOBER 31

Halloween
A fun and festive day to enjoy creativity, costumes and a little spooky fun!

Wishing everyone at MGS
A SAFE AND ENJOYABLE OCTOBER!

DON'T FORGET!

Daylight Saving Time Ends

Daylight saving time ends and clocks fall back one hour on **Sunday, November 1, 2026, at 2:00 a.m. local time,** returning the U.S. to standard time.



Share With the MGS Crew!

DEPARTMENT STORIES

Be sure to let us know if you have a **department story** to share or if you'd like to share **your furry friends** with the MGS crew.



Submit your suggestions to Human Resources.

Thank you!


MGS INCORPORATED
Celebrating Our
OCTOBER
WORK ANNIVERSARIES
Thank you for your dedication and service at MGS!
Jere Grube 38 Years
Chris Steinman 30 Years
James Forrest 27 Years
Erik Beatty 18 Years
Josh Hartranft 15 Years
Stanley Jenik 15 Years
John Drips 12 Years
Kirk Margheim 12 Years
Wick Jeff 12 Years
D. Lundberg-Neff 12 Years
Brett Shick 4 Years
Hannah Adams 4 Years
Angele Bingaman 3 Years
Joe Mastle 1 Year
Adric Murphy 1 Year
Bill Nowack 1 Year


MGS INCORPORATED
Celebrating Our
OCTOBER
EMPLOYEE BIRTHDAYS
Wishing our October birthday team members a very happy birthday!
Cameron Battiro 10/01
Jeff Wick 10/04
Dan Messner 10/09
Cody Haulman 10/12
Tyrone Moyer 10/12
Clay Golden 10/13
Tyler Karol 10/15
Corey Whitman 10/18
Maria Gonzales 10/19
David Longenecker 10/26
Abigail Romig 10/26

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PEOPLE
PARTNERSHIP
PERFORMANCE

MGS, Inc.
People • Partnership • Performance

Building A Stronger Tomorrow Together

INVEST IN YOUR FUTURE
MGS 401(k) OPEN ENROLLMENT

Start Early. Save More. Retire Better.

The Best Time to Start Saving Was Yesterday.
The Second-Best Time Is Today.

Whether retirement is 5 years away or 35 years away, every dollar you save today has the opportunity to work for you tomorrow. The earlier you start, the more time your savings have to grow.

Small Steps Big Futures



WHY JOIN THE MGS 401(k)?

MGS MATCHES YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS
Don't leave free money on the table! Participating in the MGS 401(k) Plan allows you to take advantage of employer matching contributions, helping your retirement savings grow even faster.

TRADITIONAL PRE-TAX AND ROTH OPTIONS AVAILABLE
Choose the savings option that best fits your financial goals.

- **Traditional Pre-Tax 401(k):** Contribute before taxes are deducted, potentially reducing your taxable income today.
- **Roth 401(k):** Contribute after taxes are paid and enjoy tax-free qualified withdrawals in retirement.

START SMALL
You don't have to contribute a large amount to begin investing in your future.

Even $10 per paycheck can add up over time.

Small, consistent contributions today can make a meaningful difference in your retirement savings tomorrow.

TIME IS YOUR GREATEST ASSET
One of the greatest benefits of saving early is giving your money more time to grow through the power of compound earnings.

The sooner you begin saving, the greater the potential impact on your long-term financial future.

DON'T LEAVE FREE MONEY ON THE TABLE!
MGS MATCHES YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS!

Open Enrollment is the perfect opportunity to take advantage of one of the most valuable benefits available to MGS employees.

Our retirement plan assets have grown significantly over the past several years, demonstrating the value of consistent saving and long-term investing.

Whether you're just beginning your career or planning for retirement in the years ahead, participating in the MGS 401(k) Plan can help you build greater financial security for tomorrow.

Your Future Self Will Thank You.

START SAVING TODAY.

MGS, INC.
People • Partnership • Performance

A Stronger Today.
A Brighter Tomorrow.