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PROTECTING THE U.S. AROUND THE WORLD

BY SANDRA H. SHICHTMAN

ENGINEERING PROFESSIONALS WORKING IN GOVERNMENT/ MILITARY GUARD AMERICAN ASSETS AND PEOPLE, BOTH HERE AND ABROAD.

Engineers are responsible for building and maintaining secure structures that protect American workers around the world, and they're also responsible for infrastructure that guards online and offline assets domestically and globally.

In March 2022, the National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, Office of Personnel Management, compared the number of engineers with at least a bachelor's degree who were employed by the federal government in 2005 with those same engineers employed by the federal government in 2020, showing there was a large increase, jumping from 87,218 to 105,735 employed engineers. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) agrees, also now projecting employment growth for engineers, with nearly 140,000 new jobs through 2026.

Featured here are some of the engineering professionals working in government/military tasked with protecting Americans in the U.S. and in places around the world.



Kyun Hee Koh, Ph.D. is a product development engineer at Dover Corporation.

Koh Leads Innovation at Dover Corporation's MPG Business Segment

BY SANDRA H. SHICHTMAN

Kyun Hee Koh, Ph.D. is product development engineer at Dover Corporation, a diversified global company that, through its five business segments, provides engineered products, clean energy and fueling, imagining and identification, pumps and process solutions, and climate and sustainability technologies to its clients.

Helping to get where he is now, Koh first earned his bachelor's and master's degrees in mechanical engineering in his native Korea. By the time he came to the U.S., he'd found a passion for and experience in analysis and design of micro scale systems. Then, in 2004, he earned a doctoral degree in mechanical engineering with an emphasis on microslip phenomenon, which takes place in jet engines.

He went on to gain relevant work experience at several companies in the U.S., getting the chance to grow his analytical and problem-solving skills, precision components design, hands-on manufacturing, and metrology, plus the ability to manage research and development (R&D) projects.

"This experience," he indicates, "all came together to help me to get hired into Dover as product development engineer."

In 2021 he saw a posting online for a career opportunity at Microwave Products Group (MPG), a Dover brand in its engineered products segment that provides radio frequency and microwave filters, switches, and subsystems for the defense, aerospace, telecom, and space markets.

"I applied, intrigued by their vision for innovation and potential career growth opportunities for me as an engineer," he recalls.

As product development engineer, Koh is responsible for leading innovation, technology development, and the creation of new products. He's also tasked with engineering support for existing products and optimizing manufacturing processes and procedures. "My biggest challenge is time management and the best way to deal with that is by prioritization," he adds.

He's up to that challenge, and, for him, the excitement of being part of technical innovation is very satisfying to Koh, as is Dover's company culture, which, he explains, offers a sense of inclusion and connection among colleagues.

"I'm currently a member of our OpCo's Employee Engagement committee, and I've had opportunities to meet and interact with team members beyond just my site," notes Koh, further underscoring how Dover is a company where you're valued and appreciated, where you can learn and grow as an engineer, and where there's exceptional support from upper management.

Should he want to move into a management track in the future, Koh would need to earn a project management professional (PMP) certification and an MBA, which Dover would support.

"Through our tuition reimbursement program, I'm able to request reimbursement for books, classes, and exam fees," he elaborates.

However, if he'd prefer staying on a technical career track, then he could look forward to roles as senior product development engineer, and, finally, to vice president of product development.

"I JOINED [VARIOUS] ORGANIZATIONS SO I CAN NETWORK WITH EXPERTS AND PROFESSIONALS IN THE TECHNICAL AREAS, SHARE IDEAS AND EXPERIENCES THROUGH PUBLICATIONS, ATTEND CONFERENCES, AND SUBSCRIBE TO MAGAZINES AND PROCEEDINGS."

He's a member of Dover's automation discussion group, and he's been a part of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME), the American Society of Precision Engineers (ASPE), and the European Society of Precision Engineering and Nanotechnology (EUSPEN) outside of the company.

"I joined these organizations so I can network with experts and professionals in the technical areas, share ideas and experiences through publications, attend conferences, and subscribe to magazines and proceedings," he concludes.

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