Gavin Mendoza

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My Key Qualifications

- **11 years in mechanical engineering** across Emerson industrial equipment, Vertiv power systems, and YETI, one unbroken run since 2015.
- Daily **Creo and Windchill** practitioner: leads CAD reviews, owns drawing standards, approves ECO/ECN changes, cutting ECO rework from 14 to 6 per quarter.
- **ANSYS structural and thermal FEA** correlated to physical test data, closing 9 of 11 failure modes before production release of an outdoor assembly.
- Sealing and water-ingress fixes on a weather-exposed platform lifted **pass rate from 82% to 97%** during DV, via GD&T tightening and bench testing.
- Vertiv background: sheet metal, weldment, and gasketing design for **outdoor power equipment enclosures**, including thermal qualification of a power electronics cabinet.
- Supplier technical reviews and DFM/DFA on sheet metal and molded parts removed **$18 per unit** from a released mechanical design.
- Mentors junior engineers; **3 engineers** each completed first-time release of a major assembly in under 6 months under his coaching.

Experience

Senior Mechanical Engineer — **YETI**, consumer outdoor products company

Apr 2022 – Present · 4 yrs 7 mos

- Led enclosure and latch redesign for a weather-exposed powered product platform, improving water-ingress test pass rate from 82% to 97% during DV by reworking sealing interfaces and tightening GD&T on mating features.
- Directed DV and PV testing for a multi-component outdoor assembly, closing 9 of 11 identified failure modes before production release through test matrices, ANSYS-to-physical correlation, and corrective actions prioritized with suppliers and test engineers.
- Built a new drawing checklist and Windchill release workflow for mechanical assemblies, cutting ECO rework from 14 changes in one quarter to 6 in the next by standardizing title blocks, tolerance callouts, and pre-release reviews with manufacturing and quality.
- Led supplier design reviews for sheet metal and molded components in a new product introduction, removing $18 per unit from quoted mechanical cost by simplifying formed features, consolidating brackets, and aligning tolerances with process capability.
- Mentored junior mechanical engineers through release readiness and design review practices, with 3 engineers each completing first-time release of a major assembly in under 6 months via weekly review sessions and coaching on tolerance analysis and test planning.

Mechanical Engineer III — **Vertiv**, maker of critical power and thermal management equipment

Jan 2018 – Mar 2022 · 4 yrs 2 mos

- Redesigned an outdoor power equipment enclosure for stiffness and service access, reworking hinge reinforcement, latch geometry, and tolerance zones in Creo with structural analysis, cutting field-reported door alignment issues from 8 cases one year to 2 the next.
- Designed sheet metal, weldment, and gasketing systems for power equipment enclosures used in industrial and outdoor installations, partnering with test, manufacturing, and sourcing teams through qualification, production release, and supplier issue resolution.
- Led thermal and structural validation for a revised power electronics cabinet, updating vent paths and bracket layouts and correlating test data with ANSYS studies to reduce peak internal temperature by 6°F during qualification testing.
- Resolved recurring supplier quality issues on gasket compression and weld distortion, running 8D problem solving with suppliers, adding critical inspection points, and revising drawings for clearer process intent, lowering the incoming mechanical defect rate from 4.6% to 2.1% over two quarters.

Mechanical Engineer II — **Emerson**, global industrial technology and automation company

Jun 2015 – Dec 2017 · 2 yrs 6 mos

- Updated a family of machined and cast components for easier assembly and tighter tolerance control, cutting assembly fit-related NCRs from 6 per quarter to 3 by revising GD&T schemes, stack-ups, and interface dimensions in released drawings.
- Released 27 ECOs in one year supporting a production cost-reduction program, with every change released ahead of scheduled build dates by coordinating updates across CAD, BOMs, and manufacturing documentation.
- Created and revised mechanical components and assemblies for production products and supported validation of industrial equipment designs in a regulated manufacturing environment.

Education

- **Texas Tech University** — Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering · 2011 – 2015

Skills

- **Design & PLM Tools:** Creo, Windchill, ANSYS
- **Design & Manufacturing:** GD&T, Tolerance Analysis, DFM/DFA, Sheet metal, Weldments, Sealing systems
- **Validation & Suppliers:** DV/PV Testing, Failure Analysis, Supplier Technical Reviews

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