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— BRIAN WHITESELL RACES TO THE
TOP; BECOMES JEFF GORDON'S
NUMBER ONE MAN.



Early in his senior year, David Mooney capitalized on the reputation

of a Virginia Tech Mechanical Engineering degree and secured a job offer before he graduated. Success has followed him ever since.

This Pennsylvania native graduated from Tech in '92 with a bachelor's degree in ME and moved to Elkton, Md., to work for W.L. Gore & Associates.

"This job allowed me to apply some of the engineering skills I learned at Tech," explains Mooney, who as a product developer and process engineer for the Industrial Filtration Division, was responsible for creating new products and processes and improving the old ones. Mooney learned quickly and during his third year with the company, earned his first United States patent for the world's most electrically conductive membrane with filtration efficiencies as high as 99.999% of 0.25 micron particles. The new membrane material was immediately put to use in bag house filtration where a static discharge can result in a catastrophic explosion. Mooney is still waiting for the European acceptance of the invention, where it is pending patent status.

Mooney was young, making a name for himself, and as luck would have it, more opportunities came his way.

"At 50 years of age my father decided to start his own engineering business focusing on power generation and conservation, explains Mooney, noting

REM Celebrates Success

by Keira Durette

working on his own. What excited me most was the opportunities he had to apply creative and innovative engineering to develop real solutions to complex problems.

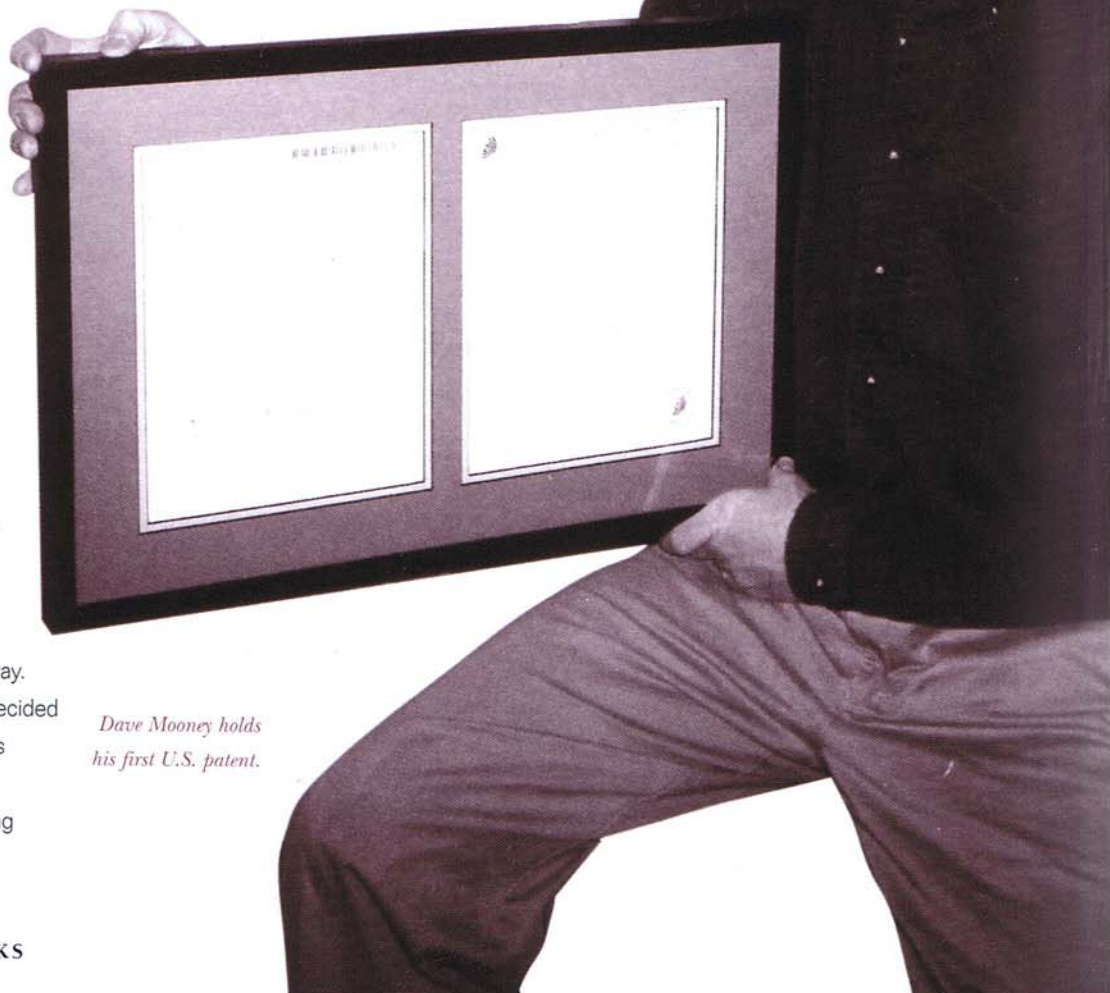
In the summer of 1995, Robert approached Dave with an offer to join him as a partner of REM Engineering, Inc.

that his father, Robert, had a daughter in junior high school and two sons in college at the time so the choice was not without some risk. "I saw the opportunities my father had by

Dad had just won a major contract for the design of a cogeneration system using a steam turbine, increasing U.S. Steel's perceived power generation from 8 to 22 MegaWatts," explains Mooney. "At age 26, I couldn't pass up a chance to get involved with influential business decisions."

So David and his wife Kristin (Virginia Tech Communications '91), relocated from Maryland to Georgia.

Since young Mooney's arrival at REM Engineering, the company has outgrown Robert's home office, moved into



Dave Mooney holds his first U.S. patent.

new offices, now employs five people and has developed strategic alliances with other independently-owned engineering firms.

In addition to his engineering expertise, Mooney has also assumed the role of sales and marketing for the company.

"I'm proud of our corporate growth and like to think my promotional efforts are paying off," he says. As evidence of his efforts, REM has been featured in *Timber Processing*, a national trade publication for the wood products industry. The story highlighted a cogeneration plant that saved Tradewinds of VA (a company owned by Virginia Tech graduate Lanny Woolfolk, forestry and wildlife management '82) 87 percent on its annual electric bill.

Additionally, REM executives have been keynote speakers at several conferences.

"Although we continue to serve larger industries such as steel, chemical and food processing with power projects, our main focus is designing cost effective, 'small' power generating systems," says Mooney.

"We have identified a need for power plants capable of generating between 70 to 5,000 KW and our innovative approach to system design enables us to meet the challenge of designing a small power generating system without the costs associated with larger plants."

REM Engineering has "small" power generating or cogenerating systems in the textile, wood processing and pharmaceutical industries. Typically, REM's systems provide a return on its client's investment in less than two years, but almost always better than a three-year payback.

The formula has proved successful.

This year, REM has expanded its services and introduced a new product line of diesel engine generators.

"I owe a lot of my success to the strong education I received at Tech," says Mooney, who hopes to one day recruit Tech graduates to work for REM. "I am proud of my degree and feel it gains me instant credibility within the engineering community." ❄

Top: Dave Mooney (left) directs equipment placement for cogeneration project at Coastal Lumber facility in Darley, West Virginia. Bottom: These Tech graduates work together at Inside Tradewinds. Lanny Woolfolk '82, owner of Tradewinds (left); Dave Mooney (right); and Ed Kube '76, vice president real estate, public relations and permitting.

