

Innovation, Talent, and 38 Years of Experience

A&R Celebrates Team Member Dermidio “Ed” Gonzalez



Dermidio “Ed” Gonzalez works on a specialty fabrics project at A&R. He has been with the A&R team since 1978.



A sample of the kind of sewing and tailoring that we do at A&R.

In this issue of the A&R Newsletter it is my honor to introduce you to our colleague with the longest period of service to our A&R family, Mr. Dermidio (Ed) Gonzalez. Ed started working at A&R in our modest location in Boyle Heights in January, 1978.

As with most of our new hires, he came to us working for the minimum wage at the time of about \$2.50 per hour.

It became clear very soon after he joined us that Ed had special talents as a tailor, but the majority, if not all, of the work we did in those early was in manufacturing truck covers and tarpaulins.

As time went on and we entered into developing and manufacturing products for the aerospace industry, Ed’s talents became more and more critical in enabling A&R to provide what was necessary to that market

At first his efforts were primarily directed to the requests that we had for creating specialized equipment covers for the facilities of aerospace and other organizations in the Southern California area.

As we grew, our capabilities began to expand into fabric-based aerospace flight hardware using specialized and sophisticated fabrics. We were requested to provide products meeting high temperature, valve systems and EMI protective requirements for space launch vehicles and the cargo they were putting into orbit.

These requirements brought many challenges on a constant basis when the engineered designs developed by our customers did not consider the nuances and idiosyncrasies of the fabrics specified for the job.

Nobody in our industry was in a

position to develop the approaches that Ed has. He is always there to provide alternative approaches and solutions using his expertise so the job will get done.

When a customer’s engineered design required that a grommet be placed into a fibrous material that couldn’t support the grommet on its own, Ed came to the rescue. He created reinforcements to the fabric using materials meeting the engineered specifications.

Ed’s design allowed the grommet to hold solidly. Without his ability and knowledge, the design could have resulted in a critical failure of the product. Ed’s abilities and knowledge have helped customers overcome challenges and made products work. Ed is a talented fabric tailor. We are both honored and blessed to be able to provide this brief profile of an individual who is an essential member of our A&R family.

Project Spotlight: A Butterfly and a Flower for the Kids



Our latest spotlight project features the replacement of fabric for two artistically aesthetic architectural shade structures at our local Fontana, CA park playground; a butterfly and a flower.

The fabric panels were faded, damaged, worn, and missing. We replaced the fabric with PolyFab brand shade cloth. We were able to recapture the look & functionality of the original installation

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