

**RITA M. DeHART, PE, MBA**  
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### Professional Experience

- 1997 – 2014  
2024 - Present
- Consulting Engineer Founder, and President, Reliant Engineering PA (founded October 17, 1997):** Charlotte, North Carolina. Conducted/created steam-electric generating facility life cycle cost modeling, training program design, equipment assessment, budgeting, technical instructing, and piping and instrumentation diagram (P&ID) design.
- Additional accomplishments include: (1) Serving as Principal Investigator to the National Science Foundation for a (successful) grant proposal to Bismarck State College for the eventual establishment of an energy center supplying distance learning and enhanced simulator training. (2) Design of a complete operator training program for Midwest utility plants using guidelines from DOE Handbook No. 1078.
- 2014 – 2024
- Technical Trainer Energy Supply – Tampa Electric Company**  
Conducted technical training classes in all phases of power plant operation; in-person and online via Cisco WebEx and Microsoft® Teams. Job duties also include designing new training programs using the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) and United States Department of Energy training design standards.
- 1992 - 1997
- Training Manager, Cogentrix Energy, Inc.:** Charlotte, North Carolina. Designed and managed the technical training program for 10 electric power generating facilities. Prepared combined cycle facility life cycle cost models for financial pro forma analysis. Prepared fiscal operating budgets for 250 MW combined cycle facility. Conducted technical training classes in boilers, turbines, plant auxiliary equipment, electrical theory, and generators.
- 1990-1992
- Training Coordinator, Cogentrix, Inc.:** Southport, North Carolina. Designed and administered technical training program for 10 power generating facilities. Conducted technical training classes in boilers, turbines, plant auxiliary equipment, electrical theory, and generators. Served as Supervisor of Apprentices through the North Carolina Department of Labor.
- 1988 - 1990
- Training Coordinator, Cogentrix North Carolina Region:** Southport, North Carolina. Designed and administered technical training program for four power generating facilities. Conducted technical training classes in boilers, turbines, plant auxiliary equipment, electrical theory, and generators. Served as Supervisor of Apprentices through the North Carolina Department of Labor.
- 1987 - 1988
- Control Room Operator, Cogentrix Southport Plant:** Southport, North Carolina. Operated a 100 MW stoker fired facility from the central control room.

*NOTE: A description of work experience prior to 1988 can be furnished upon request.*

### Training and Other Technical Experience (Abridged)

1. Developed, authored, and presented multiple-level operator certification courses at various plant site locations. – 1997 through 2006

2. Prepared and presented an introductory environmental regulations course (through HDR Engineering, Inc.) at SPSA NAVY RDF Facility, Chesapeake, Virginia. - 1999

### **Academic Education and Certification**

**Master of Business Administration** Queens University of Charlotte 1997, McColl School of Business, Charlotte, North Carolina

**Professional Engineer – Mechanical Engineering**

The North Carolina Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors, February 1997.

### **Industry-Related Education**

**Student Generating Plant Operator** Tennessee Valley Authority, 1979-1980 (Colbert Steam Plant)

### **Professional Activities**

#### **Industry Certifications**

- Chief Engineer - The National Institute for the Uniform Licensing of Power Engineers, Inc. (NIULPE), 1988
- Examining Engineer -The National Institute for the Uniform Licensing of Power Engineers, Inc. (NIULPE), 1988
- Technical Instructor - The National Institute for the Uniform Licensing of Power Engineers, Inc. (NIULPE), 1992
- First Class Steam Stationary Engineer - City of Tampa, Florida, 1981
- Resource Recovery Operator Provisional Certification (QRO) - The American Society of Mechanical Engineers Codes and Standards, 1993
- Municipal Solid Waste Instructor Certification - Environmental Protection Agency, 1997

### **Publications**

- “Improving Boiler Performance through Operator Training”, Proceedings of the Association of Energy Engineers Competitive Power Congress, June 1995.
- “Environmental Compliance through Operator Training and Certification,” Association of Energy Engineers World Energy Engineering Congress, November 1995.
- “Knowing Your ABC’s: 26 Short Boiler Topics for Continued Safe Operation,” Presented at the 65th General Meeting of the National Board of Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspectors, May 1996 in Kansas City, MO. Published in the National Board BULLETIN (online).
- “Why Boilers Fail”, Feature Article in the National Board BULLETIN, Winter 2002 (The National Board of Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspectors). This publication was presented at the 71<sup>st</sup> National Board General Meeting in Colorado Springs, CO.

### **Professional Affiliations**

- Past Member, Department of Electronics, Computer, and Information Technology Industrial Advisory Board, North Carolina A & T State University
- Member and Past Vice Chair, The American Society of Mechanical engineers Codes and Standards Committee on Qualification of High-Capacity Fossil Fuel Fired Plant Operators (QFO Committee)
- Past Chairman, The American Society of Mechanical Engineers Piedmont - Carolina Section
- Member, The National Association of Power Engineers
- Member, The American Society of Mechanical Engineers

### **Amateur Radio**

- Amateur Radio Operator – Extra Class (Call Sign KC4RMS)
- Emergency Management – Member of ARES/RACES and AuxCOMM
- Board of Directors Member – Tampa Amateur Radio Club

### **Computer Literacy**

Advanced user skills in Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, Visio, and Excel; intermediate user skills in Adobe Acrobat Pro; entry level skills in Microsoft Power BI.