



2020 Ones to Watch: Michael Tortorella, ME Engineers

February 18, 2020 - Spotlights

Name: Michael Tortorella

Company: ME Engineers

Title: Managing Principal

Education: BSE – Duke University '05

Which project, deal, or transaction was the “game-changer” in the advancement of your career?

Without a doubt, the new Yankee Stadium (which opened in 2009), is the project that still stands out. Having the opportunity to work on a large and complex project early in my career helped to shape how I approach every project I work on. Most importantly, having had the chance to be a part of a large team really gave me perspective and provided an experience that was invaluable – seeing a project through from beginning to end and being a part of a group that all shared a common goal, despite coming from different areas of the industry.

What led you to your current profession?

It sounds cliché, but since I was a child I always had an interest in how things were put together and built. Engineering was also a prevalent course of study in my family, so I was exposed to it early in my life.

What can our political leaders do to increase equality in the workplace?

Lead by example.

How do you contribute to your community or your profession?

I feel that being part of the team that has created local iconic venues, such as Yankee Stadium, Citi Field, the transformations of Madison Sq. Garden and the United States Tennis Center, and now the Belmont Park Arena is one way in which I'm able to consistently contribute to the community. I've also been involved in the ACE Mentor Program for over 10 years; it's a great way to encourage young students who are seeking mentorship in the architectural, construction and engineering fields and I really enjoy being a part of it.

What do you like most about your job?

My career allows me to meet and engage with really bright and smart people on all sides of a project, from ownership to design and construction professionals. Working on these teams and

developing long lasting relationships is the most rewarding part of my career.

Who or what inspires you?

My inspiration comes from being able to work on notable projects and see how they can impact people's lives and experiences.

What social media platform do you use the most professionally?

LinkedIn is the only social media platform that I use.

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