



# I TAKE YOU TO NEW HEIGHTS.

**KEVIN SMITH | Senior Supervisor**  
Altec Industries, Inc.



## KEVIN'S STORY

I've been with Altec more than 27 years now. Altec specializes in the manufacture, sales and service of aerial devices, digger derrick, cranes and specialty equipment for the electric utility, telecommunication, tree care, construction, and light and sign. The people I work with are the best part of my job and the company is family-oriented.



## TYPICAL DAY

I'm responsible for all incoming new orders for the Midwest/St. Joseph plant. I release and create job numbers to start and schedule the build process. This could be anywhere from 0-100 new orders per day. We also create all the new orders for all ship-out units that are produced in St. Joseph along with ordering all the chassis/trucks for our plant. Another responsibility is over our new modification center. This is where we let our customers come in after their unit is built and complete, and we up-fit their units or trucks. We perform an inspection with the customer, and we add or delete items on the truck. We may perform one to five of these inspections a week.



## FACT & FICTION

**I hear all the time how dirty and nasty it is to work in a manufacturing plant or factory, and if you want a high-paying job, this is not the place for you. Not true.** I would have to say after working for 28-plus years with Altec, I never thought I was stuck in the same job day-in and day-out. In fact, I have held multiple positions at Altec, from a temp picking up trash and painting floors to working for materials and picking parts for new builds; to working in the metal room, building trucks and supervising over 60-plus associates.



College is not for everyone. It wasn't for me. I do know students today have everyone around them telling them that you need to go to college if you're going to make anything out of your life. This is so not true. If you are looking for something different every day, manufacturing is your future -- whether it's running a lazer, CNC, robot or building a truck with your hands from the wheels up. This is the job for you.

You get out of your life whatever you put into it. Students getting ready to get out of high school, you need to figure this out on your own. There are a lot of good-paying jobs out there that don't require a college degree. But it's going to take hard work and dedication -- not only to your job, but what you want out of your life.

If you just want to get by, then you will just get by. If you want a job just for a paycheck that's what you will get. But if you want a career, it will take hard work and dedication every day.



**“The people I work with are the best part of my job. It’s very family-oriented.”**



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