



FORD METER BOX

THE METER SETTER

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Steve Ford Retires after 20 Years at the Helm *Chris Shanks Appointed Ford Meter Box President*

Steve Ford



On May 1, 2026, Steven R. Ford, President of The Ford Meter Box Company, retired after forty-four years of service. His two decades at the helm follow roles in Information Technology, Engineering, Inside Sales, and eight years as Corporate Secretary and Treasurer.

Steve received his first paycheck from Ford Meter Box as a college student fifty years ago. He graduated from Purdue University in 1980 with a degree in electrical engineering and continued graduate studies at the University of Illinois before returning to the company.

His tenure as president was accompanied by industry and regulatory reforms including the adoption of unleaded waterworks materials and mandates for domestic sourcing. More broadly, the industry witnessed economic extremes ranging from the Great Recession of 2008-2009 to homebuilding booms and Covid-19. Internally, Ford initiatives during this

era included ERP computer upgrades, machine automation, facility expansions, the addition of an onsite clinic, and the Baker line of engineered products for treatment plant and above-ground applications.

Concurrently, Steve's volunteer service to northern Indiana encompassed leadership positions on various college, civic, and nonprofit boards.

Steve is the great-grandson of company founder, Edwin Ford. In retirement, he and his wife, Lisa, plan to remain active in the Wabash community. Steve continues to serve as Chairman of The Ford Meter Box Company's Board of Directors.

Chris Shanks



Chris Shanks, formerly Executive Vice President and General Manager, has succeeded Steve Ford. He becomes The Ford Meter Box Company's eighth president.

Chris's academic degrees include an Associate of Arts (York University), a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration (Oklahoma Christian University), Industrial Engineering (Wichita State University), a Bachelor of Science in Quality Management (Kansas Newman University), and a Master of Science in Management (Friends University).

Chris launched his career working in accounting, then moved into industrial engineering at Boeing Aircraft Company in Wichita, Kansas. Following leadership stints at Johnson Controls Automotive and the Atchison Casting Company, he joined Ford Meter Box in 2000.

Since joining Ford, Chris has been active in such industry organizations as the American Foundry Society and Indiana Cast Metals Association. He has held leadership positions with the Non-Ferrous Founders' Society and enjoys an advocacy role with the Northeast Indiana Regional Partnership. At Ford, Chris has led efficiency and modernization initiatives, facility reorganizations, external distribution sites, and career development programs for manufacturing personnel. As chair of the company's Employees' Association, a sponsor of family social events, Chris has cultivated connections throughout the organization. He is a twenty-four-year director of The Ford Meter Box Company.

Chris resides with his wife, Sheri, in Wabash, Indiana. They have two grown sons.



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