

About Us

Tim and Michael have been best of friends since childhood, going back to their preschool days at ABC Nursery School in the suburbs of New York City in the early 80s. Michael was always an artist, and Tim was always a tinkerer. They always dreamed of one day starting a company together, though in their youth, it was supposed to be a car company. As teenagers, they spent most of their time in the great outdoors – mountain biking, hiking, and kayaking throughout the Northeast. Then, they went off to college and began to pursue their careers.

Tim and Michael stayed in touch over the years, always talking about how they should leverage their engineering and design skills to start a forward-thinking company of their own. Now in their mid-thirties and with families of their own, they decided to go for it, and they're hoping to make product development their full-time careers in the near future. Though thousands of miles apart, they have worked together, dividing and conquering, to tackle the various aspects of bringing the Mozu Hanger to where it is today. Tim headed the engineering, prototyping, manufacturing, and logistics aspects of the Mozu Hanger, while Michael led the design, branding, art direction, and marketing. They attribute the success of their long-distance venture to their long-lasting friendship and their mutual respect for one another, as well as to the support of their families and the generous guidance of their SCORE mentor, Bob Wolk.

TIMOTHY LEE, ENGINEER + CO-CREATOR

Tim studied mechanical engineering at Columbia University in New York City and then headed off to graduate school at the University of Washington in Seattle. Then, he followed his soon-to-be wife (an Air Force pilot) around the country and the globe. At first, he worked as a stress engineer in the aerospace and defense industry (Boeing and Spirit AeroSystems) on programs ranging from the 787 to the Space Shuttle to the JLTV military vehicle. After living in Japan for several years while his wife served in the military, he founded TimSpec Engineering, LLC, a product development and technology consulting company, which he continues to run. Tim is now a proud father of two young daughters and continues to support his wife as she pursues her Air Force career. He is excited to be working where his true passion is – innovating, creating, and making.

MICHAEL GRAHAM, DESIGNER + CO-CREATOR

Michael studied industrial design at the Art Institute of Fort Lauderdale for three years prior to enlisting in the U.S. Army. After serving on active duty for five years as a Topographic Analyst and completing two combat tours in Iraq, he returned to school to finish up his degree in graphic design at the Art Institute of Tampa. Around that time, he and his fiancée also welcomed their son, Peter. Michael began his graphic design career at several top media and marketing companies, including Specific Media, Edelman, Grapeshot, and Ogilvy CommonHealth. He then became the first graphic designer at Fine Minerals International, where he was responsible for the design and execution of all advertising and marketing materials as well as global event displays, packaging systems, product design, and web design and development. Michael continues to work as a graphic designer, but his passion remains developing creative and elegant solutions to everyday problems.