

Bio Sheryl Southwell

Sheryl Southwell is the President and CEO of Specialty Polymers, Inc. a dynamic, privately held manufacturer of water-based polymers and wood adhesives. Under her leadership, the Company has grown significantly, becoming a recognized leader in customized solutions for the paint and coatings industry.

With the goal to become the most responsive and flexible supplier in the industry, Sheryl has dramatically increased both the size and reach of the Company, while still maintaining the responsiveness and flexibility of a small company.

Sheryl has guided the Company through multiple expansions, overseen the building and continued expansion of the Company's Chester, South Carolina production facility and directed the continual investments in the Company's Woodburn, Oregon facility.

During her 19-year tenure as president, she has transformed Specialty Polymers into the leading manufacturer of customized products with more than 135 full time employees at the Company's production plants, R&D labs and administrative offices.

Sheryl and Specialty Polymers have received numerous honors including being selected as a recipient of the prestigious Austin Family Large Business of the Year award. In addition, Specialty Polymers has a long history of supporting local communities. The Company works directly with Oregon State University to provide scholarships for the university's STEM Academy.

Sheryl has served as Chair of both the Executive Boards of Cascade Employers Association, and SEDCOR, a 450-member economic development entity for Oregon's Mid-Willamette Valley.

Sheryl earned her degree with honors in biochemistry from the University of Minnesota. Prior to joining Specialty Polymers, she worked as a technical marketing manager for Tecan Systems, a biotechnology company headquartered in San Jose, California. She has held previous technical and managerial positions in the biotechnology field.