



**Rochester Institute of  
Technology**

College of Engineering  
Technology Department of  
Manufacturing & Mechanical  
Engineering Technology 78  
Lomb Memorial Drive  
Rochester, NY 14623-5604

Letter of Recommendation on behalf of Mike Konrad,

Mr. Konrad and I have known each other for many years as volunteers of the SMTA organization. He and I both sit on the Board of Directors, where Mike has lead the Training Committee, sat on the Strategic Development Committee and now leads the Marketing and Communications Committee. As a member of the SMTA he has also been awarded the title of “Distinguished Speaker”. I only mention these appointments and awards to illustrate Mike’s willingness to share his knowledge and passion for manufacturing, engineering and the sciences.

I had asked Mike to come and speak to our students at Rochester Institute of Technology since so many are interested in entrepreneurship. It is well known that Mike is an engaging speaker with many fascinating stories to tell. His speaking “style” is light hearted, funny and inspiring. Although starting a business is very challenging, and the stories make that clear, his method of retelling those challenges and successes inspires anyone who is lucky enough to hear his story.

Mike has an uncanny way of making complicated subjects easy to understand while interjecting humor. He doesn’t bore the audience with reading slides or talking in a monotone voice, Mike makes a significant effort to engage with people in the room. In addition he honors those who have helped him, paying careful attention to how his wife, parents and friends supported him throughout his journey. These acknowledgement are not only humorous but also heartfelt. Mike has a way presenting that makes you become emotionally connected to his journey as an entrepreneur.

After his presentation, students and faculty were eager to ask him more questions and talk to him during a reception. Mike was gracious and took the time to speak to everyone he could. Providing advice, funny anecdotes and well wishes. Mr. Konrad would make an excellent speaker for any organization wanting to hear a captivating story of trials, tribulations and successes on the way to founding a successful business. I strongly recommend him as a speaker and welcome any further questions regarding my recommendation.

Dr. Martin K. Anselm  
Associate Professor  
SMTA President  
[mkamet@rit.edu](mailto:mkamet@rit.edu)