Michael B. Parks, PE, CEM
Founder and Chief Engineer
Green Shoe Garage
Veteran-owned Small Business

Mike Parks, a world-renown product design engineer, is a native of Glen Burnie, Maryland. He began his engineering career at the United States Naval Academy as a research assistant in the Department of Weapons and Systems Engineering in the mid-1990s. He honorably served on active duty in the United States Navy for over a decade before returning to civilian life. With over 25 years of experience, Mike has a proven track record in designing, building, installing, and testing electronic and mechanical solutions for clients worldwide, including Fortune 500 companies, small businesses, startups, NGOs, and academic institutions.

Mike is the visionary founder behind Green Shoe Garage (GSG), a pioneering multidisciplinary workshop. GSG stands out for its unique approach of blending old-school craftsmanship with modern digital tools to design, engineer, and fabricate bespoke objects (functional and artistic) for clients. We call our creative philosophy **iDEAS** — the intersection of industrial design, engineering, arts, and sciences. Our comprehensive services cover mechanical, electrical, electronic, and software/firmware development. GSG takes pride in supporting clients throughout the entire development lifecycle, including research & development, conceptual design, rapid prototype, detailed engineering, custom fabrication, low-volume manufacturing, and laboratory & real-world testing.

Mike has been involved with numerous initiatives that advocate for various technology and social issues, including the maker movement, STEAM education, open-source hardware and software, citizen science, digital citizenship, ethical hacking, right-to-repair, criminal justice reform, elimination of poverty, and voting rights. Mike is a member of the Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society, Disabled American Veterans, American Legion, IEEE, Open Source Hardware Association, and the National Eagle Scout Association. He is a licensed Professional Engineer in the State of Maryland. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, and a Master of Science in Systems Engineering from Johns Hopkins University. He also holds an Extra Class amateur radio license (N1HNP) to round out his nerd credentials. When not sequestered in the workshop or laboratory, he loves exploring all aspects of geek culture with his greatest invention, his very talented daughter Hailey.