



**HARTMAN**  
ENGINEERING

Friends and Colleagues,

I want to formally update you to some changes in my career path. On January 30th I resigned from 4Creeks to start a new firm which will be dedicated solely to my vision of protecting our agricultural market.

My first memory of this journey started when I was 5 years old on my family's dairy. I was more interested in watching and creating bubbles in the dairy pond than I was in feeding the cows. The fact that the cow waste would create gas that could be used as energy amazed me. Learning that same stinky cow waste was also used as fertilizer on the fields was mind blowing at that age. I would ask people how and why they would call this waste pollution when it could be fertilizer and energy.

One unnerving observation I saw was my family had bottled water at the house because of this pollution. It bothered me that my family were fine with a process that lacked control or knowledge to the impact to their own contamination, forcing them to drink bottled water from another location. As I got older, I saw that not much was being done by the industry to fix this and people had become accustomed to living with this issue.

All of this led me to Cal Poly San Luis Obispo to pursue a degree in Civil Engineering with a focus on water and environmental design practices. My junior year, I started a company to help my agricultural friends and family at home to improve their waste management practices. The economics and regulatory side of the industry hadn't at that time created a demand for the market to invest in improving their process to create energy and nutrients.

After graduation, I went to work for one of the top engineering firms in the valley and wanted to sharpen by business skills. After a couple of years, I became a Project Manager with that firm and learned the contract and client relationship side of the business.

In 2007, the Water Board put a regulation in place requiring dairies to start to inventory and comply with a set of rules which required them to hire a Civil Engineer. I knew the market was changing and there would be a demand for my skill sets and passion.

Eventually, I wrote a business plan to leave that firm with three others and formed 4Creeks. After a short period of time, the market showed the need for fresh ideas and we eventually built an awesome environment for local designers to gather.

This new venture has been created to be even more proactive in the market place. I have worked alongside experts and professionals to assist in many of these problems, but after 8 years, none have been solved. Time is running out for change and the entire industry is at risk. There isn't a game plan and the professionals in the market place are spending more time taking small steps and

managing the pollution problem, rather than ending it forever.

The new firm is called Hartman Engineering, a name known to the industry for a high level of service who technically delivers the best efforts for sustaining agriculture. We want to lead and protect the industry by comfortably changing their paradigm to become more sustainable while showing them how to economically cash-flow those changes.

You will notice the new business theme showing a militant feel because we're building an army for change. Our field crew and vehicles are decked out in camouflage, because when you hire us, you have hired Agriculture's Army.

The Army has been set up to defend through proven innovation and the incorporation of environmental practices. At the end of the day, these techniques will reduce costs of energy, resources and regulatory compliance. The next few years will be a revolution for Agriculture. We hope you consider talking with us to assist you through the process.

We strive for a day our Agriculture friends and families have that same 'Aha moment.' A moment similar to when an electric vehicle owner realized they no longer need a smog check or to be regulated by the Water and Air Board because they are fundamentally different.

Since leaving 4Creeks, the support of past clients and the industry has been amazing. Clients that I have met through my time with 4Creeks have been seeking me out and are supportive of this new chapter now unfolding.

This was definitely a huge leap of faith, but I have felt led since I was young, through many confirmations, that this is my mission in life and that God is with me through this path. I pray for the success of the 4Creeks team and am thankful for all that I experienced there and throughout my life to get me to this place.

Here is to a new Chapter in Life, Hartman Engineering, Inc.

God Bless,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'CH' or similar initials, written in a cursive style.

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