



GERARDO LARA

Vice President Fired Boiler Sales, Rentech Boiler Systems

Gerardo has been in the boiler business since the early 1990s. He has worked on projects throughout the US as well as globally. Gerardo's expertise is in engineering, sales, field service and troubleshooting of boiler systems. At Rentech, he has responsibility for the basic design, proposal, and estimating groups for all packaged and field-erected fired boiler sales.

KEVIN SLEPICKA

Vice President of Heat Recovery Boilers, Rentech Boiler Systems

Kevin has over 30 years of experience with boilers and heat and energy recovery systems as a sales engineer. He understands the energy consumption needs and challenges of a number of customers across a variety of industries.

SHAWN BREWER

Director of Business Development and Field Services, Rentech Boiler Systems

For over 35 years, Shawn has been involved in all aspects of the boiler business from installation contractor to owner of a representative agency to sales manager for various boiler and burner manufacturers. Shawn is focused on building lasting relationships with vendors, trade allies, engineers and customers.

RYAN THOMPSON'S BIO

Ryan L. Thompson, PE

Ryan is the Director of Utilities Operations for UT Austin's Utilities and Energy Management (UEM). He has worked for the university for twenty-six years. During this time, he served as a Maintenance Mechanic, Project Manager, Maintenance Manager, Associate Director of Power Plant and Chilling Stations, and now as Director of Utilities.

Ryan has over thirty years of experience in power generation in nuclear and fossil-fuel plants. His expertise is in campus district energy systems, including combined-cycle generation systems, large chilling plant systems, district heating, and utility distribution systems. Currently, he focuses on energy optimization and efficiency improvement in new and existing plant equipment.

Additionally, Ryan is an Adjunct Professor at Austin Community College where he teaches courses in power generation and advanced technologies to prepare students for technical positioning in the utilities, manufacturing, and industrial workforce. He is also a member of the Association of Energy Engineers and the International District Energy Association. Throughout his career, Ryan has supported the Mechanical Engineering Department at UT Austin by giving plant tours and serving as a guest lecturer.

Ryan has a Bachelor's Degree and Master's Degree in Mechanical Engineering from The University of Texas at Austin.



XAVIER RIVERA MARZÁN'S BIO

Xavier Rivera Marzán

Xavier is the Executive Director of The University of Texas at Austin's Utilities and Energy Management (UEM) department. He has led UEM since May 2022 and is responsible for more than 220 staff across five divisions: Operations, Distribution, Power Systems, Controls & Operational Technology, Engineering and Technical Services, and Finance and Administrative Services. In his current role, Xavier champions sustainable and scalable solutions for the campus.



With experience working in higher education and the private sector, Xavier has worked for more than 30 years leading utilities, energy management, and facilities management organizations. Before UT Austin, he served as Executive Director of Utilities and Energy Management at the University of Kentucky, where he spearheaded the development and implementation of a utility master plan and the design and construction of a new central utility plant to support a new medical district.

Before that, he served as Director of Utilities and Energy Management for Purdue University and led a project to build a 16MW Cogen P3 facility with Duke Energy. Xavier dedicated 18 years of his career to Georgetown University, where he served as Director of Utilities and Energy Programs. Before that, he worked in the aerospace industry with Heico Aerospace and in the hospitality industry with Hilton, Turnberry, and Williams Hospitality.

Xavier has a Master's degree in Leadership from the McDonough School of Business at Georgetown University and a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from Florida Institute of Technology. His solid technical foundation is matched by his strong leadership skills, strategic thinking, and ability to build meaningful partnerships.