

OTS R&D Appoints Cara Martin as new CEO

January 2, 2024

In November 2023, the board of directors of OTS R&D voted to appoint Cara Martin as their new CEO, effective January 1, 2024. Dr. Reinhard Radermacher served as the CEO since the company's inception in January 2023. Both he and Cara have worked closely together over the past ten plus years, both in initiating OTS R&D, Inc. and in building its predecessor, Optimized Thermal Systems, Inc.

OTS R&D, Inc. was formed in January 2023 as a worker cooperative to enable an employee-owned structure, providing long-term stability and continuity of the company's service offerings. Consulting work previously conducted under Optimized Thermal Systems was shifted to OTS R&D, including all design development, modeling analysis, software development, prototyping and experimental evaluation. Commercial software licensing for CoilDesigner® and VapCyc® remains with Optimized Thermal Systems, led by CEO Dr. Vikrant Aute.



As an owner of OTS R&D, Reinhard will remain an advisor to the company, continuing to provide technical insight for projects, guiding board activities, and supporting business development.

Reinhard shared that “It has been a pleasure to serve as CEO for both OTS R&D and Optimized Thermal Systems. I am proud of what we’ve accomplished in creating the OTS suite of businesses, including our ongoing partnership with John Bush of OTS Energy. Cara has been an invaluable asset to the growth of OTS and I know she will excel in the CEO role.”

Cara completed her bachelor's and master's degrees at the University of Maryland in Mechanical Engineering under the direction of Reinhard and his team at the Center for Environmental Energy Engineering (CEEE). Following graduation, Cara worked for a small consulting company in Albany, NY developing building energy models, compiling LEED certification documentation and conducting energy audits.

Cara joined Optimized Thermal Systems in May 2013 as an Engineering Manager overseeing just two other employees. She was promoted to Chief Operating Officer in 2015, which has been her role until now. Over the past decade, she and Reinhard worked to build a team of thirteen full-time staff as well as a comprehensive laboratory for vapor compression system and heat exchanger prototyping and testing.

“I am thrilled to step into the CEO role for OTS R&D! I love the work that we do, our amazing team, and the opportunities we have for impacting energy efficiency and carbon reduction. I look forward to continuing to build our capabilities and expertise, both through our long-term industry partnerships and our government grants to develop exciting new technology,” Cara commented.