



Charles Etienne
Product Development —
Concept to Production

ABOUT

I take products from concept to production — 25 years across mechanical, electronic and software products.

Industrial and mechanical design, project management for multi-product lines, design for manufacturing, sourcing, compliance and contract manufacturing.

Product strategy, roadmap and specifications, built from scratch as a CTO — along with the development process around them.

Co-founder of a Los Angeles musical electronics company, taking our own products from sketch to shelf.

Skilled in 2D and 3D CAD (SolidWorks, Blender) and work-management tools; uses AI tools in CAD and purchasing. Fluent in English and French.

SKILLS

Industrial design

Mechanical design

Project management

Design for manufacturing

Sourcing

Compliance

Contract manufacturing

SolidWorks

Blender

Asana

English

French

CONTACT

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Los Angeles, California

US, Canadian & Belgian citizen

EDUCATION & CREDENTIALS

California State University, Northridge
Bachelor of Science, Astrophysics

CA Commission on Teacher Credentialing

Designated Subjects CTE Credential —
Engineering & Architecture (Preliminary,
issued July 2026)

Dassault Systems

Certified Product Development Manager

CPR Today! Academy

CPR/AED Certified through 2028

National Futures Association

Associate Member (Expired)

Broadcast Music International

Member

Charles Etienne

I take products from concept to production.

Available for contract work

EXPERIENCE

APR 2023 –
PRESENT
Los Angeles,
California

Co-Founder — Olinthus

Co-founded a Los Angeles guitar-effects company and took three pedals from sketch to market through repeated production runs.

Supply chain. Run the contract manufacturer and the chassis and PCB suppliers in China: specifications, samples, purchase orders and landed cost. Brought laser marking and 3D printing in-house.

Business development. Built distribution in Japan, Canada and France alongside our own store, Amazon, Reverb and Etsy.

Team. Work with freelance engineers, designers and an animator; my co-founder leads marketing. Also regulatory compliance, UPC codes and fulfillment.

MAR 2022 – JAN
2023
Montpellier, France

CTO, Director of Product Development — Two Notes (Orosys SAS)

Directed product development for hardware and software audio products. Built strategy, roadmap, and product specifications from scratch to integrate efficiently with distributors and retail partners and maximize customer experience. Implemented large-scale workflow reform: transparent budgeting, project management tooling (Asana), and a clear, effective approval process for design changes.

JUN 2011 – FEB
2022
Thousand Oaks,
California

Strymon (Damage Control Engineering)

Mechanical Designer → Senior Mechanical Designer → Industrial Designer → Project Manager
Project Manager, 2020–2022. Ran project management for a multi-product line at a small, fast-growing company. Part of a tight cross-functional team of engineers, designers, and programmers—keeping releases on schedule, building an internal knowledge base that cut task turnaround from months to weeks, and helping take the commercial plug-in division from a long stall to launch-ready within months.

Industrial Designer, 2018–2019. Oversaw all industrial design across the audio product lines —UI, UX, Mechanical, Wordmark, Quick Starts, product displays—delivered on time. Earned multiple industry awards, helped win new market share in the power supply and Eurorack sectors, and cut prototype creation time from weeks to days.

Mechanical & Senior Mechanical Designer, 2011–2018. Produced 2D and 3D CAD models, engineering drawings and prototypes for hardware audio products. Key member of the team that deployed the company's PDM system, improving sourcing and procurement efficiency.

2007 – 2011
Calabasas, California

Engineering Assistant / Repair Technician — Line 6 Inc. (Yamaha Guitar Group)

Entry-level engineering for amplifier development and technical support operations at a high-volume musical instrument manufacturer—strategic team coordination across RMAs, FAQTRAQ, and customer telephone support.

Alongside Line 6, 2009–2011: Project Manager of Ape Advertising Group, a small advertising company of my own.

2000 – 2007
Los Angeles & New
York

Earlier

Technical Support Supervisor, The Trademaven Group (2005–2007) · Futures Broker, Series 3 License, Global Futures Exchange and Trading Company (2003–2005) · Copyright Coordinator, Warner Special Products, Warner Bros. Records Inc. (2002–2003) · Assistant Director, Snap Films Inc. (2001–2002) · Assistant Sound Engineer, Musician, Composer, Lavesky Music House Inc. (2000–2001)