On December 31, 2016, Mike Vespoli left his heralded racing shell company in New Haven, Connecticut after 36 years. But he didn’t sell Vespoli to another rowing company, or the highest-bidder.

He sold it to his employees.

Mike’s innovative, unconventional tack is nothing new. After earning his stripes as an Olympic competitor, a World Champion, and a renowned coach, in 1978 Mike was the first to bring carbon fiber racing shell technology to the U.S. as an agent for UK-based Carbocraft. Vespoli was founded in 1980, the first manufacturer of ultralight, carbon fiber honeycomb-core boats in the country.

Since 1980, a prestigious team of naval architects, hydrodynamics experts, and engineers have stayed ahead of the competition, crafting shells with state-of-the-art technology, design, and materials. From the Olympic Games to the newest high school rowing team, Vespoli boats continue to bring out the best in rowers around the world.

The new owners of Vespoli thank Mike for more than 3 decades of rowing excellence and originality.

We’re looking forward to another 30-plus years of innovation, craftsmanship, and service.