**Jim Becker**

Jim is 4th generation in the family that owns and operates MIDTEL and the Newport Telephone Company, and currently serves as the companies’ President.

Jim worked outside the industry for a couple years after college and officially started at MIDTEL in September 1993. His first official day of work was a paid holiday, which ironically was Labor Day. After learning the business from “the bottom of the hole to the top of the pole”, he helped lead MIDTEL’s entry into the Cable TV, Internet-Broadband, Long Distance, and datacenter businesses.

In addition to his MIDTEL and Newport duties, Jim has responsibilities at INOC Datacenters, NY Access Billing, and N.A.S.A. He also enjoys serving on management teams and various boards inside and outside of the telecommunications industry, and coaching his daughter’s travel softball and son’s travel soccer teams.

While Jim loves being involved in the rural telecom industry, he’d rather be racing stock cars or coaching for a living…or be retired and on a beach or boat somewhere in the Caribbean.