Our Company Story

In 1995, in the bright, chaotic days when Microsoft felt like the future being built in real time, two people crossed paths in the middle of the machine.

Ann Tu was the kind of person who naturally pulls people together, the one who can feel the pulse of a team, strengthen the culture, and make operations run like a well-tuned instrument. Lowell Sandoval was the opposite force in the best way: the one who sees complexity, refuses to accept it as "just how it is," and then turns it into something everyone can understand and rally around.

They met at Microsoft. Lowell was in enterprise technical sales; operating systems, development tools, databases, where the work is rarely simple and the stakes are always real. Ann was in consumer sales, and when the hard problems escalated, Lowell became her technical escalation resource. That's how it started: two people operating on different fronts, solving the same problem from different angles. They married soon afterward, not just as a life decision, but as a shared commitment to building something bigger than either one of them could carry alone.

Their backgrounds couldn't be more different, and that's part of the magic.
Lowell grew up in Bothell, Washington, on more than 80 acres of country land, space to think, build, and learn how systems work by watching how everything connects. Ann grew up in Connecticut and came to Seattle because family spoke of the Pacific Northwest like it was a place you could breathe and begin again. Different origins. Same destination: building a life, and eventually a company, designed around clarity.

Over the next 35+ years, Lowell did what he has always done: walk into complex environments and bring back the truth in a form leaders can actually use.

Because projects don't fail in dramatic ways. They fail quietly.

They fail when high-impact risks stay hidden.
They fail when constraints are discovered too late.
They fail when external dependencies look "fine" until they suddenly aren't.
They fail when decisions move slower than reality.

Lowell learned how to spot the early signals, before the work stoppages, delays, and overruns. He learned how to uncover catastrophes, constraints, and dependencies early, and absorb them naturally as they arise, so they don't become showstoppers. He learned how to prepare change requests up front, with pre-approved options, so decision cycles compress instead of dragging on for months.

And he did it inside some of the most demanding environments on Earth: The Walt Disney Company, T-Mobile, Alaska Airlines, Google, IBM, Microsoft, Intel, Oracle, FedEx, Comcast, and Verizon.

Along the way, his work touched industries and markets in real, concrete ways, advancing hardware server-clustering innovations at Intel; pushing Oracle database technologies downstream onto departmental Intel servers; decoding Microsoft's competitive operating system positioning matrix; launching Comcast's first televised exhibition match supporting a nonprofit soccer association in partnership with the Seattle Sounders; creating a satellite Wi-Fi test blueprint that enabled Alaska Airlines' first satellite Wi-Fi test flight; driving T-Mobile's provider API strategy implementation and delivery for national partners; serving on IBM's national consulting team for managing partners on the West Coast; leading mergers and acquisitions initiatives for airlines; publishing as an author; launching new businesses.

And then he did the most Lowell thing possible:
He built the solution himself.

Lowell is the inventor of the Clarity Engine platform, and the sole coder of the full-stack, production-ready system behind it. Not a concept. Not a deck. A working platform built to do what organizations keep begging for but rarely get: executive-ready truth, fast.

This is where spgFix becomes more than a company. It becomes a mission.
The Clarity Engine by spgFix exists to create a world where simplicity meets clarity, where objective truth can be presented in a way all people can understand and contribute toward. That means removing complexity and acronyms from the situation, the analysis, and the outcomes. Not because we want to "dumb it down," but because the truth should be usable. If people can't understand it, they can't act on it.

And we anchor everything in a principle that's as old as business itself:
Assets − Liabilities = Equity.

Money coming in.
Money going out to run the business.
What remains after reality is accounted for.

Everything, your products, your services, your teams, your partners, your systems, are players inside that structure, pushing outcomes in a positive or negative direction. Clarity Engine is built to show you what's true inside that equation, what's driving it, and what must change to improve it, without waiting months, without endless meetings, and without pretending the world is simpler than it is.

Ann and Lowell built spgFix the same way they built their life: as complementary forces.

Ann is the internal executive who strengthens resolve, aligns people, and keeps the engine running smoothly.

Lowell is the voice in front of crowds, direct, evidence-based, and built for real-world constraints, laying out a vision that teams can actually execute.
Together, they created Clarity Engine for the organizations that don't want more noise. They want results.

They want visibility.
They want compressed decision cycles.
They want portfolios that stay on track.
They want the truth, cleanly delivered, clearly understood, and immediately actionable.

That's who we are. And when we meet, you'll feel it in the first few minutes: we're not here to impress you with complexity.

We're here to remove it.