



News letter

Arora Newsletter



ARORA ENGINEERS

Q3 | 2026



Arora Recognized Among America's Fastest-Growing Private Companies

AWARDS | August 13, 2026

As Arora celebrates 40 years of engineering excellence, another milestone has been added to the journey. [Arora has been recognized on the 2026 Inc. 5000 list, honoring America's fastest-growing private companies.](#)

This marks Arora's 14th appearance on the prestigious list, a testament to four decades of strategic growth, innovation, and the trusted relationships we've built with our clients, partners, and employees.

While we're proud of this milestone, our focus remains on what comes next.

We'll continue investing in our people, expanding our expertise, embracing new technologies, and delivering innovative infrastructure solutions that create lasting value for our clients and communities.



**MANIK K.
ARORA | PE**

Chief Executive Officer

The Next 40 Years: The Evolution of Arora Engineers

NEWS | July 21, 2026

As part of our 40th Anniversary celebration series, we sat down with Manik Arora, Chief Executive Officer of Arora, to reflect on the firm's evolution and future.

As Arora transitions from a small founder-led engineering firm to a modern, technology-focused global infrastructure solutions leader, Manik shares his vision for strategic growth, innovation, and long-term client partnership in the decades ahead.

The Power to Step Forward

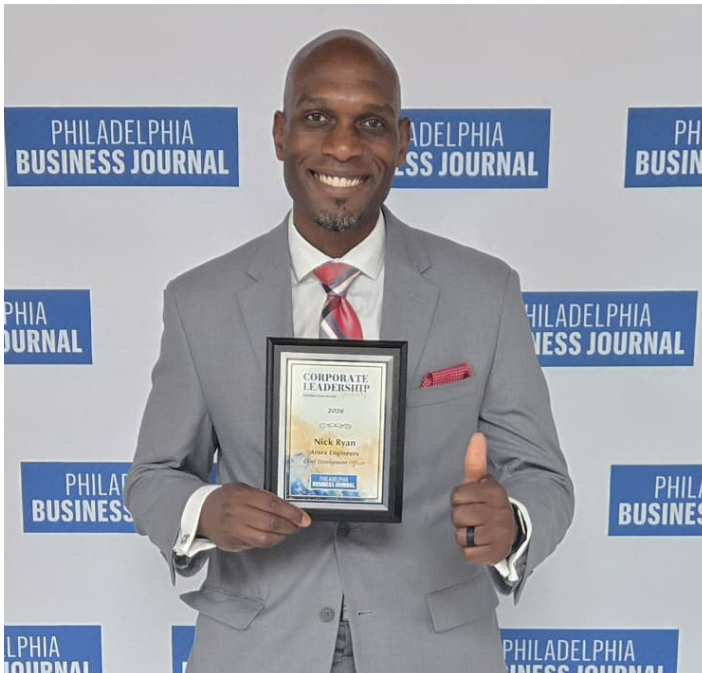
When Manik joined Arora in 1993 after graduating from Drexel University with a BS in electrical engineering, he began in the field at Philadelphia International Airport. Nearly a decade on the owner's side shaped how he views infrastructure and the responsibility that comes with leading it.

"We've evolved from a family-owned business into a global firm," Manik says, "but we've kept the core values that built the company."

For Manik, leadership is about development. Today, that philosophy continues to shape how Arora develops talent, builds leadership capacity, and strengthens the organization from within. For Manik, the Power of 40 ultimately comes down to people — investing in them, developing them, and empowering them to lead.

[Click here](#) to read more about what's next for Arora.





Nick Ryan Named 2026 Corporate Leadership Honoree by the Philadelphia Business Journal

AWARDS | July 16, 2026

We're proud to share that Nick Ryan, Chief Development Officer at Arora, has been recognized as one of the Philadelphia Business Journal's 2026 Corporate Leadership Award winners. This honor celebrates leaders who are driving growth, innovation, and positive change within their organizations and communities, and Nick's leadership exemplifies each of these qualities.

As Chief Development Officer, Nick leads Arora's corporate growth strategy, key client relationships, and business development initiatives. Throughout his career, he has played a pivotal role in expanding the firm's presence in the aviation industry while strengthening partnerships that support long-term success.

To read more about this recognition, [click here](#).



ACI-NA Annual Conference & Exhibition in Philadelphia

EVENTS | September 14, 2026

Our team enjoyed connecting with airport leaders and industry partners at the 2026 ACI-NA Annual Conference & Exhibition in Philadelphia, sharing the expanded expertise Arora and JWJ bring to airport programs.

WTS Philadelphia Annual Golf Outing

EVENTS | September 17, 2026

Arora was proud to serve as a Mulligan Sponsor of the WTS Philadelphia Annual Golf Outing, supporting educational grants for students pursuing transportation careers. Our team enjoyed a great day on the course alongside fellow transportation professionals.



Exploring HVAC Innovation

EVENTS | July 26, 2026

At Arora, our MEP team is always looking for ways to stay hands-on with the latest technology, especially for our early-career professionals. Creating opportunities for young engineers to engage directly with real systems is a key part of how we support growth and innovation across our teams. Recently, we had the opportunity to explore a mobile [HVAC demonstration with DelRen HVAC](#) that brought cutting-edge systems directly to our office. Opportunities like this help our team stay current, encourage continuous learning, and ultimately deliver smarter, more innovative solutions for our clients. We look forward to more experiences that support the growth of our people and keep us at the forefront of innovation.



Strengthening Emergency Response at Dallas Fort Worth International Airport

PROJECTS | August 26, 2026

Through a design-build partnership with JE Dunn Construction and PGAL, Arora helped modernize critical emergency-response infrastructure at Dallas Fort Worth International Airport. The project includes two new Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting facilities designed to support DFW's long-term operational needs and improve efficiency across the airfield. Arora provided mechanical, electrical, plumbing, fire alarm, and fire protection engineering services, supporting the design and coordination of reliable building systems that enhance airport safety and prepare DFW for the future of aviation.

[Explore the full project details here »](#)

USO Golf & BBQ Fundraiser

NEWS | September 23, 2026

Arora team members across multiple offices came together for a BBQ and golf fundraiser in support of the USO. The event included a putt-putt contest and hot wing challenge with proceeds helping support the USO's programs for military service members and their families.

The BBQ helped build momentum for the upcoming 18th Annual USO at PHL Golf Outing, which supports USO hospitality programs and services for military service members and their families traveling through Philadelphia International Airport.

This is just one of the ways Arora continues to put its commitment to giving back into action.





Canstruction & North Texas Food Bank Fundraiser

PHILANTHROPY | September 1, 2026

For the third consecutive year, Arora proudly sponsored [Canstruction Dallas](#), supporting the North Texas Food Bank's mission to combat hunger across the region. As our organization continues to grow we remain committed to supporting the communities where we live and work.

Arora Cup Scores for STEM

PHILANTHROPY | July 24, 2026

The Arora Cup brought team members across the company together for friendly competition. The winning team, Team Japan, selected DonorsChoose to receive an [Arora Cares STEM donation](#). DonorsChoose helps public school teachers fund projects such as robotics kits, coding resources, engineering activities, science labs, and other hands-on STEM learning experiences.



Backpack Drive

PHILANTHROPY | August 24, 2026

This year marked our 5th year of supporting Hephzibah Children's Association through our Annual Backpack Drive with the WINGS Giving Back Committee, collecting 181 backpacks and lunchboxes to help students start the school year prepared. Thank you to everyone who donated and helped make this year's drive a success.

March of Dimes, Philadelphia Airport 5K

PHILANTHROPY | September 14, 2026

Since 2018, Arora has proudly participated in the PHL 5K Run/Walk, supporting the March of Dimes and its mission to improve the health of moms and babies. This year, our team once again joined the airport community for a memorable 5K on the airfield, where participants had the unique opportunity to run and walk alongside active aviation operations.

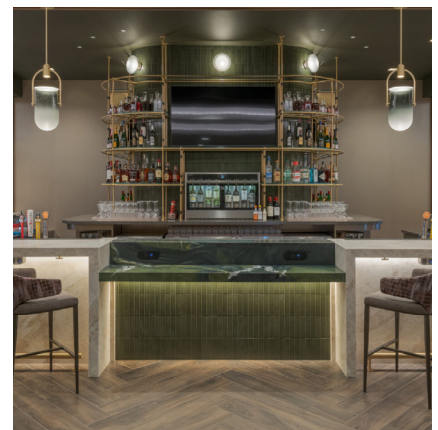
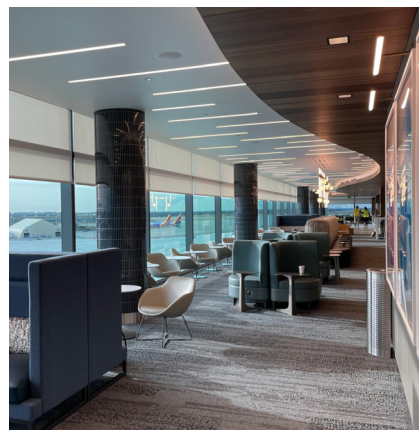
The event brought together airport partners, community members, and supporters for a morning centered on wellness and giving back. We are grateful to Philadelphia International Airport for continuing this meaningful tradition.



Airline Clubs & Lounges Across the Country

PROJECTS | June 24, 2026

JWI has been selected as the prime consultant to provide program management services for three new Delta Sky Club projects at San Antonio International Airport (SAT), Tampa International Airport (TPA), and San Diego International Airport (SAN). Together, these projects represent nearly 48,000 square feet of premium lounge space, supporting Delta's continued investment in enhancing the passenger experience across its growing airport network. These projects further demonstrate our strength in aviation program and project management, particularly within complex, active airport environments where schedule alignment, stakeholder coordination, and operational continuity are critical to success. [Click here](#) to learn more about our club and lounge projects.





Annual Soiree

EVENTS | September 17, 2026

Our team gathered for the annual Soiree, celebrating a year of change, growth, and evolution while recognizing the people, accomplishments, and culture that have shaped the organization. This year's theme, the "Speakeasy Soiree," transformed the evening with a password-protected entrance, live piano music, specialty cocktails and themed décor, a best-dressed contest, and a mystery imposter challenge that kept guests engaged throughout the night. Employees fully embraced the theme, creating a memorable and festive atmosphere. Most importantly, the event provided an opportunity to connect with colleagues, reflect on the year's successes, and honor those who have made a lasting impact on the company. The evening celebrated the 2026 Jerry Enright Legacy Award recipient Valeria Wright and the 2026 Legends: Matt Montgomery, Ed Schoonveld, Mariana Palomino, Larry Wycoff, Angela Dillon, Lesley January, and Carrie Lin. The night also included a special tribute to Julie Watts, recognizing her leadership, contributions, and the legacy she leaves as she enters retirement. As the evening came to a close, it served as both a celebration of JWI's proud history and a meaningful reminder that its greatest strength has always been its people.

Celebrating Julie Watts' Legacy

NEWS | October 2, 2026

As Julie Watts retires, we celebrate her remarkable legacy as Founder and President of J.A. Watts, LLC. Her vision grew JWI into a nationally recognized firm while fostering a culture of opportunity, support, and belonging. Through her leadership and WINGS, Julie created meaningful pathways for women and underrepresented professionals to grow and lead.



Charleston International Airport's West Gates Expansion

PROJECTS | September 8, 2026

As Charleston International Airport works toward 100 years of service, its West Gates Expansion is helping shape what comes next. The \$110 million project will add four gates, approximately 50,000 SF of passenger space, expanded hold rooms, nearly 4,000 SF of dining and retail, and international-arrivals connectivity. Together, these improvements will help CHS welcome more travelers while enhancing the journey from gate to curb. Arora is proud to support the project alongside Corgan. Our team provided special systems, fire alarm, and fire protection design for CHS's earlier temporary gates and connector facility. For the permanent concourse, anticipated to open in January 2027, Arora is providing Testing and Commissioning Management. *Photos Courtesy of Corgan and LS3P.* To read more about the project, [click here](#).



Chicago & Denver Teams Pull Together for Special Olympics

EVENTS | September 26, 2026

Both our Chicago and Denver offices recently supported the Special Olympics Plane Pull. Our teams competed to see who could pull a United Airlines 737, weighing more than 95,000 pounds, 12 feet in the fastest time. Proceeds benefited Special Olympics programs in each state, making it a great show of teamwork for an important cause.

Welcome New Hires

EMPLOYEES | September 25, 2026

We are pleased to welcome Enrique Melendez, Ryan Rogala, and Scott Howell to our team. Their expertise in their respective fields will propel us forward as our business continues to grow and evolve. We are also excited to announce that, over the last quarter, we welcomed 22 new employees to the team. Welcome aboard!



Enrique Melendez, C.M., PMP

Director, Aviation Technology

Enrique brings more than 30 years of aviation technology leadership experience, helping airports around the world modernize operations. He has partnered with airports, airlines, and federal agencies to deliver technology strategies that improve operational efficiency, enhance the passenger experience, and prepare airports for the future.



Ryan Rogala, PE

Electrical Practice Lead

Ryan brings extensive experience delivering electrical engineering solutions across the federal, science & technology, education, commercial, and transportation markets. Known for his technical expertise and deep understanding of building codes, he is committed to developing practical, efficient, and cost-effective solutions for clients.



Scott Howell, PMP, GISP

Geospatial Practice Lead

Scott has built a career helping government agencies and private sector clients leverage geospatial technology to make smarter, data-driven decisions. He will lead Arora's GIS practice, working to expand our geospatial capabilities, support business growth, and deliver innovative solutions that enhance the services we provide to our clients.

Promotions

Alex Alqaq, Director, Project Delivery
Zachary Beyar, Fire/Life Safety Discipline Lead
Masha Drozdov, Vice President, Design and Delivery
Lesley January, Sr. Director - Marketing
Jae Kwon, Fire/Life Safety Practice Lead

New Hires

Colin Davis, Talent Acquisition Co-op
David DeHart, Fire/Life Safety Sr. Designer
Ruby Dorchester, Assistant Project Manager II
Thomas Dinh, Mechanical Design Intern
Jo-Anna Freeman, Facilities Operations Coordinator
Breann Gualtieri, Accounts Payable Specialist
Uchenna Jenkins, Contracts Procurement Specialist
Thomas Kodadek, Electrical Engineering Intern
Churchill Kumar, Construction Project Manager

New Hires (continued)

Sarah Lake, Junior Project Manager
Julia Lennon, Administrative Coordinator
Enrique Melendez, Director, Aviation Technology Planning
Andrew Nelson, Construction Manager
Kevin Perez-Villanueva, Assistant Project Manager II
Erica Pinto, Contracts Specialist
Tim Simmerly, President
Lonny Wayne, Senior Project Manager I
Michelle Wickman, Senior Project Manager I
Ben Wilson, Industrial Hygienist
Boyd West, Regional Facilities Manager

[Click here](#) to view our current job listings and join our growing team!



ARORA® | **40** YEARS