

Getting Along: Straight Talk from a Family Business Veteran

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Carl Beauregard, former President of **Beauregard Equipment**,

(https://www.beauregardequip.com/default.htm) has worked side by side with his father and three brothers, and has 15 younger relatives who could be involved in running the business someday. Over the years he's learned a lot about getting along with siblings and the values of trust and communication.

In this interview, he shares what he's learned about harmonious relationships with both relatives and non-relatives at his New England-based firm, which sells farm and construction equipment. Some key takeaways: Don't cross the lines of responsibility with people who do their jobs well. Talk with key employees before you launch a change. Don't show off how you're spending your money, especially during times when the company must tighten the belt. Do a lot of "management by walking around" so you get to know non-relatives in the business. And do some careful planning before a new, larger generation takes over.