Carolyn Stanworth
President and CEO
BL Companies

Carolyn N. Stanworth is the President and CEO at BL Companies, a multi-disciplined architectural, engineering, environmental and land surveying professional services firm. She was one of the primary drivers responsible for planning and instituting the ESOP (Employee Stock Ownership Plan) at BL Companies, which she saw as an excellent opportunity to inspire ownership, employee engagement and accountability among staff at all levels. Stanworth champions the firm’s multi-year Leadership Development initiative and succession planning efforts. She works closely with senior leaders, managers, and external consultants in the implementation and enhancement of the shared ownership culture at BL Companies.

Stanworth heads an employee-owned company, whose core leadership includes 7 women among 16 key people. She has engaged her 37 years of experience in strategic planning, financial analysis, accounting, operations, auditing, and information technology to shape a leadership training program for all employees at BL Companies that is designed to develop a common language, instill respect and foster communication. Stanworth supports her employees both professionally and personally and is engaged with helping those in the communities where BL’s employees live and work. She has fundamentally changed the way the architects, engineers and scientists at BL look at the business. As a leader and mentor to the women and men in the company, Stanworth has harnessed the power of employee ownership to engage and strengthen the BL team.