

Chris Ullmann Resume

CHRIS ULLMANN

U.S. Based (NY / Remote / Hawaii) | c.ullmann@yahoo.com | 516-497-2325
linkedin.com/in/chrisullmann | Portfolio: ullmann-blueprint.vercel.app

THE TRANSLATOR

I turn business problems into working AI solutions - and teach organizations how to do it at scale.

Leaders at Microsoft, engineering, and business have called this a rare skill: the ability to sit with operators on the plant floor, understand their real problems, then architect AI solutions that IT can build and deploy. I don't just strategize. I build POCs, engage thousands, and scale adoption. My work has reached the CEO level at Estée Lauder and caught Microsoft's attention.

25 years in supply chain and manufacturing. Now obsessed with AI that actually works.

WHAT I DO

Bridge Business ↔ Technology - Translate operational needs into AI architectures, agent designs, and working prototypes that IT can scale

Build Real Solutions - POCs, pilots, and production systems for teams in the weeds - not marketing demos

Scale Adoption - Engaged 1,000+ people on AI; grew active users 30% month-over-month across global supply chain

Drive Transformation - \$500M+ digital roadmaps, 170% ROI programs, HBR-featured change leadership

SIGNATURE OUTCOMES

- **AI at CEO scale:** Built solutions that reached Estée Lauder's CEO and Microsoft leadership; embedded AI into thousands of daily tasks across documentation, KPI narratives, and problem-solving

- **1,000+ people engaged:** Scaled AI enablement enterprise-wide through adoption networks, role-based training, guardrails, and change management - audiences from 10 to 600+
 - **\$35M+ delivered value:** Operational excellence, automation, cobots (\$1.4M ARR), workforce optimization, 15% batch cycle time reduction
 - **\$500M+ transformation governed:** Co-authored and led Integrated Manufacturing Transformation with staged funding and measurable benefits
 - **170% ROI on \$49M program:** Leading Beauty Forward - operating model, process innovation, Engineering Tech Center
 - **Quality turnaround:** 90% reduction in audit observations; cycle time from 12 days → 2.7 days; \$3.75M inventory savings
 - **HBR-featured transformation:** Kotter-based change leadership for Coty's supply chain reinvention ([HBR, May 2016](#))
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EXPERIENCE

The Estée Lauder Companies - New York, NY

Executive Director, AI Transformation & NA MFG Strategy | 2024–Present - Built and run North America's Manufacturing Strategy & Transformation Office - 60 projects, ~\$100M annually, 5 plants - Created strategy-to-action operating rhythm: monthly reviews, standardized dashboards, narrative packs - Scaled AI enablement with training, adoption patterns, guardrails, and change networks - Solutions recognized at CEO level; partnership engagement with Microsoft

Executive Director, PMO, Supply Chain and Digital Transformation | 2018–2024 - **Leading Beauty Forward** (2016–2021): \$49M program, 170% ROI - operating model, process innovation, Engineering Tech Center - **Runway** (Enterprise NPL Platform): \$16.1M cross-functional initiative integrating business PMO with Agile IT - **Integrated Manufacturing Transformation:** Co-author and executive owner of \$500M+ digital/OpEx roadmap

Executive Director, Quality Assurance | 2015–2018 - Turned largest regulated site fully compliant through org redesign and advanced quality systems - Led global organizational redesign - shifted from quality control to quality assurance mindset - 90% reduction in audit observations; QA cycle time from 12 to 2.7 days; \$3.75M inventory savings

Coty Inc. - Phoenix, AZ → Sanford, NC

Director, Quality Assurance | 2013–2015 - Quality lead during multi-site consolidation: 2,000+ employees, \$39M first-year savings - Managed full operation transfer (AZ → NC): staffing, equipment, documents, SAP QM transition

Manager, Quality Assurance and Quality Control | 2011–2013 - Built GMP and QMS systems from scratch; 60% reduction in supplier quality incidents - Led integration of 100M-unit Nail Lacquer business from acquisition

- Quality and Validation leadership in FDA-regulated environments
 - **U.S. Air Force veteran** - two Air Force Achievement Medals
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EDUCATION & CREDENTIALS

Stanford University School of Engineering - Technical Fundamentals of Generative AI (XFM110)

Queens University of Charlotte - B.S. Biology

Lean Six Sigma - Certified

WHAT I'M LOOKING FOR

A role where I can bridge business and technology to build AI solutions that matter - ideally in manufacturing, quality, or supply chain. I want to work with teams solving real problems, not just planning them.

Open to: AI Transformation, Head of AI/Digital, VP Operations & Technology, Director of AI Enablement

Location: Fully remote or Oahu, Hawaii

References and additional materials available on request.