

HARSHAL KULKARNI

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EDUCATION

University of Southern California

Master of Science: Industrial and Systems Engineering | GPA: 3.28/4

Los Angeles, CA

August 2023-May 2025

Vellore Institute of Technology (VIT)

Bachelor of Technology: Mechanical Engineering | GPA: 3.5/4

Vellore, India

August 2018-May 2022

SKILLS

- Lean Six Sigma, Root Cause Analysis, DMAIC, Kaizen, Value Stream Mapping (VSM), GMP, GD&T, PFMEA, PDCA, CAPA
- SolidWorks, AutoCAD, Microsoft Office Suite, ARENA, Python, C++, Power BI, MRP/ERP systems (SAP)
- Inventory Management, Statistical Process Control, Microsoft Project, Change Management, Logistics Optimization, ISO 13485

EXPERIENCE

EXELINT INTERNATIONAL (Los Angeles, CA) | Industrial Research Analyst

September 2024-Present

- Conduct and monitor KPIs and VSM of medical device company across 5 key departments; identified inefficiencies using 5 Whys and RCA, contributing to 7+ process improvements through GMP and WMS, engagement with 30+ employees.
- Applied DMAIC methodology, saving **\$11,539.35 annually** in operational and sales costs while ensuring compliance with ISO 13485, ISO 9001, and FDA regulations. Revamped picking, packaging for three products using Kaizen, SPC, and CAPA—cutting waiting time, leading to a **39.4-minute** improvement; enhanced workflows during ERP migration from Sage to Oracle NetSuite.
- Led warehouse KPI visualization using **Gemba** boards, Power BI, reducing unloading turnaround time to **4.65 hours**, accelerating throughput and minimizing delays and supporting the strategic transition to a new China-based warehouse

COUNTRY HILL INTERNATIONAL (Dubai, UAE) | Continuous Process Improvement Intern

May 2024-July 2024

- Developed a detailed VSM to identify waste and development areas in beef burger patty in food manufacturing company.
- Updated supply chain and process flow for beef production, from raw material procurement to dispatch. Applied RCA and **Lean Six-Sigma** to streamline operations, decreasing 19 defective patties per 2.3 mins by improving efficiency by 15.24%
- Implemented lean methodologies, including **Kanban**, 5S, and **JIT**, narrow down waste. Utilized **Gantt charts** and project scheduling to modify production timelines, increasing on-time delivery by 24.23 mins per day
- Configured **Microsoft Dynamics** NAV ERP software for inventory management and product tracking using the FEFO method, growing transparency and traceability of 4 different products by 9%, thus enhancing Warehouse Management System (WMS)
- Implemented barcode system, leading to a reduction in stock discrepancies from 15% to 5%, manual errors by 11.7% per day.

SKODA AUTO VOLKSWAGEN PVT LTD (Pune, India) | Project Management Intern

January 2023-June 2023

- Managed in on-going 2 major projects, Model Year 2025 and IN 2.0, multi-tasking across different cross-functional teams.
- Improved project timelines and coordination between cross functional departments, while leveraging **Microsoft Office Suite** (Excel, PowerPoint, Word, Outlook) and **Microsoft Project**, cutting down project delivery times by an average of 3 days
- Applied strong analytical, statistical, and problem-solving skills for New Product Innovation (NPI) to evaluate 30+ marketing ideas for the Model Year 2026 project, analyzing 60-70 business cases, and advancing 15 high-potential ideas

ENGENEXT SOFTWARE SOLUTIONS (Pune, India) | Design engineer and Developer

July 2022-December 2022

- Developed backend components **Solar CAD** software and Design360 projects using C++ and BricsCAD, **AutoCAD**
- Honed solar panel efficiency algorithms, leading to a 25% boost in energy yield predictions and reducing runtime by 3.2 sec
- Volunteered to showcase Solar CAD software at MCCIA 2022 Manufacturing Expo in Pune, India

MAJOR PROJECTS

Lean Six Sigma Optimization in Fish Processing Operations (La Maison Nordique)

Dubai, UAE

- Analysed SOPs and **process workflows** to identify bottlenecks, leading to a progress of 7mins decrease in processing time
- Executed the **5S** methodology, achieving 7 improvement ideas in workspace organization and decreasing tool search time from 20 minutes to 12 minutes per shift, uplifting operational efficiency. Upgraded Vendor and supplier Management.
- Established pre-shipment inspections (Inspexion), resulting in a 20% reduction in customer complaints (10 to 12 per month)

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- Graduate Teaching Assistant** for Lean Operations (01/25-05/25) | USC | Managing course logistics and designing curriculum
- Health Club** (07/2019 - 03/2020) | VIT | Organizing 15+ social events to elevating community bonds among members

CERTIFICATIONS

- Lean Six Sigma Green Belt** (USC) from Institute of Industrial and Systems Engineers (IISE) (Oct 2024)