

Rowan Nelson

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Manufacturing & Production Engineering

Experienced Manufacturing Engineer with 15 years of progressive experience, including managerial roles leading design and manufacturing teams. Demonstrated success in optimizing manufacturing processes, driving cross-departmental collaboration, and delivering high-quality products in fast-paced environments. Proficient in project management, production design, and process improvement, with advanced skills in Solidworks, machining, and CAM. Well-versed in Geometric Dimensioning and Tolerancing (GD&T), ensuring precise product specifications and quality standards. Recognized for exceptional leadership, strategic decision-making, and fostering a culture of innovation and continuous improvement. Ready to leverage extensive experience and leadership capabilities to drive excellence and achieve organizational objectives.

Professional Experience

Zaber Technologies - Vancouver

Production Manufacturing Manager

January 2018 - Present

Manager in manufacturing, leading a team of Mechanical Engineering EITs and Mechatronic Technologists. Spearheaded design and implementation of custom automation machines, enabling production of previously challenging-to-outsource components.

Skills

- Management
- Communication
- Design
- Cross Departmental Integration

Production / Manufacturing Engineer

January 2014 - Present

Detail-oriented Production/Manufacturing Engineer with a proven track record of seamlessly integrating new products into the production phase. Collaborates closely with design engineers to develop efficient assembly processes, jigs, and fixturing, optimizing production efficiency. Proficient in integrating supply chain and quality control methodologies into lean manufacturing processes to ensure high-quality outputs. Skilled in managing expectations and coordinating across multiple teams to guarantee timely delivery of superior-quality final products.

- GD&T
- ASME Y14.5
- Pneumatics
- Automation
- Solidworks
- Concept to product
- Fabrication, CNC, manual lathe and mills, water jet

Protective Packaging Manager

August 2011 - Present

Directed the development and coordination of packaging solutions for our product lines, with a particular focus on delicate positioning devices. Engineered innovative packaging designs tailored to the unique requirements of these sensitive instruments, ensuring optimal protection during transport and storage.

Continuously evaluated and refined packaging processes to uphold the highest standards of product integrity while minimizing overhead costs.

- Packaging design
- FMEA
- Documentation
- Solidworks PDM
- Prototyping, laser cutter

Production Team Lead

January 2019 - February 2021

Managed multiple roles concurrently, including serving as an Assembly Technician Team Lead, overseeing a team of 5 technicians, and maintaining proficient operations amidst high-stress conditions with just-in-time inventory management.

Demonstrated expertise in inventory and time management, ensuring a remarkable 1-week turnaround. Prioritized team development while providing crucial support during the COVID-19 pandemic, adapting workflows and implementing safety protocols to ensure continued success.

- Organization
- Time management
- Operational efficiency
- Conflict resolution

Shop Manager

January 2012 - November 2014

Managed the purchase and installation of multiple CNC machines and a Water jet machine. Coordinated and executed the services of the shop to facilitate the needs of the Design engineers and a demanding high paced manufacturing environment.

- CNC programming
- Machine selection
- Commissioning
- Training

Daryl Evans Mechanical

Pipe Fitter Apprenticeship

June 2008 - July 2010

Worked on various construction sites, mostly hospitals and schools. Installing steam lines and oxygen supplies. My experience working in this field taught me the importance of hard work and that not all problems need to be analyzed first.

Sometimes brute force is the proper approach.

- Copper line soldering
- General plumbing
- Teamwork

Johnson Industries

Mechanical Engineering Technologist

June 2007 - June 2008

Working under a very talented mechanical engineer, designing and manufacturing some of the largest disc brakes and calipers in the world. Handled new high pressure jobs with large budgets.

- Technical documentation
- High pressure environment

Education & Training

Full-Stack Web Development Bootcamp & 100 days of code: The complete Python Pro Bootcamp - Udemy online courses

Currently enrolled

Fundamentals of GD&T based on ASME Y14.5-2009

October 2019

Lean Six Sigma Yellow & Green Belt

March 2019

GeoTol Pro Full GD&T Fundamentals – Levels 1 & 2

Online 2017-2018

Mechanical Engineering Technologist

Camosun College 2004 - 2007, Victoria, BC