

# NAGARAJ GUNDURAO

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Accomplished professional, with 25+ years of experience, targeting a dynamic role in an organization of high repute for mutual growth and

# Core Competencies

New Product Introduction

Program Management

Project Management

Product Lifecycle Management

Customer Experience

Manufacturing Excellence

Technology Transfer

Subcontractor Relations

Production Planning & Control

**Process Optimization** Quality Assurance

Kaizen/Lean Manufacturing

Data Integrity

**Operations Management** 

Resource/Manpower Management

**Budgeting & Cost Control** 

Six Sigma

Supply Chain Management

### **Education**



MS (Operations/ Manufacturing Management) | BITS, Pilani

B.E. (Industrial Engineering and

- Management) | BMS College of
- Engineering, Bangalore |
- (Distinction)

# Certifications

- Six-Sigma (Green Belt) training from Solectron, Penang, Malaysia
- ESD Auditor from Solectron, Bangalore
- Completed training and certification in ISO/TS 16949 Auditor from Solectron, Bangalore

### **7 Trainings**

- Attended trainings on:
- OEM/ODM programs runs out of OEM/ODM partner in Portugal and Czech
- Leadership program to accelerate current status of business with BU leadership team
- NPI programs runs out of Contract manufacturer in China, Malaysia & Thailand
- NPI and Control Processes at Cypress-Manila
- **Program Management for NPI** development - WestPalm Beach - Florida and Corry - PA
- I2 system training at JDA(BY)

# 🚣 Profile Summary

- Strategic & multifaceted leadership expertise in Corporate Strategy, Program/Project Management, Customer Experience Optimization, and Supply Chain Management across high-tech industries including Semiconductors, OEM, Components, EMS, Telecom, and Automotive sectors.
- Proven success in managing Program Management, production operations with a key focus on top & bottom line profitability by ensuring optimal utilization of resources.
- Track record of establishing processes & SOPs, streamlining workflow and creating work environment to enhance productivity.
- Improved Program/project timelines, manufacturing processes by introducing measures, resulting in cost-reduction, better time to market and quality enhancement; developed, aligned, and integrated manufacturing strategies and action plans in line with company's strategic and financial direction along with all stakeholders and/or functions, as needed.
- Managed improvement review process, implementation and transition control plans.
- Coordinated with the leadership and cross-functional teams, contributing towards BU initiatives, improving the processes associated with product release and commercialization.
- Exhibited excellence in leading process improvement, lean manufacturing, cost reduction projects & implementing quality systems for enhancing production efficiency; enhanced efficiency of workforce by focusing on technical & customer-oriented aspects.
- Recognized for successfully launching over 60 groundbreaking programs within an 8year period, each characterized by unique, innovative designs that disrupt market trends.
- Proven proficiency in aligning client and service provider requirements, expertly navigating vendor ecosystems, and executing seamless transitions of business processes that adhere to established strategic frameworks.
- Accomplished leader, adept in building and mentoring cross-functional global teams across multiple time zones, ensuring optimal performance and consistent achievement of Service Level Agreements (SLAs) & Key Performance Indicators (KPIs).

### Work Experience

#### Western Digital, Bangalore | Director - Product Operations Management | Apr'16-Present **Key Result Areas:**

- Spearheading establishment & talent acquisition for the Product Operations Centre of Excellence in Bangalore, building a high-performance team aligned with global objectives.
- Orchestrating end-to-end Product Operations strategy, ensuring seamless cross-functional integration between Engineering, Operations & Executive Leadership.
- Championing industry-leading New Product Introduction (NPI) initiatives by holding full accountability across NPI lifecycle-from concept to commercialization while optimizing scalability, quality benchmarks, cycle time efficiencies & cost leadership to ensure alignment with enterprise growth objectives.
- Acting as the principal liaison between manufacturing operations and product development teams, driving strategic alignment and operational excellence.
- Architecting & executing supply chain strategies in collaboration with internal stakeholders, mitigating risks, managing dynamic demand shifts & ensuring supply chain resilience & ramp readiness with both internal teams & external ecosystem partners.
- Delivering significant contributions to enterprise-wide cost optimization initiatives, consistently driving operational efficiencies and sustainable cost reductions.
- Steering enterprise-wide governance for BOM establishment, status transitions & parameter change management through ECN/ECO frameworks, ensuring precision execution for both New Product Introductions (NPI) and shipping products, while driving seamless integration of New Part Introductions aligned with diverse customer requirements across legacy and next-gen components.
- Leading multiple high-impact NPI programs across retail and OEM segments within CS group, accelerating time-to-market & ensuring strategic alignment with evolving business dynamics.
- Instituting and operationalizing robust business process frameworks to address procedural gaps, embedding continuous improvement initiatives to enhance process maturity, operational excellence, and sustainable efficiency gains.
- Providing leadership across commercial programs to drive continuous improvement in tools, systems, and processes, aligned with overarching company goals.
- Driving innovation in systems, processes & technological advancements to foster operational
- Building a strong culture of compliance by ensuring strict adherence to quality system requirements, corporate policies, and training protocols.

#### **Highlights:**

- Implemented quality performance metrics for NPI programs (KPIs), trained both internal and external cross functional teams to develop a process and managing through.
- Secured top-tier executive commendation from leadership in acknowledgment of exceptional strategic contributions and impactful business achievements.
- Attained accelerated leadership advancement with a fast-track promotion to the next executive tier within just 8 months of onboarding at WD/SD, reflecting high-performance delivery and organizational impact.

### Cisco Systems India Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore | Manager-Supply Chain Operations | Dec'11-Apr'16

#### **Key Result Areas:**

- Ded the orchestration of 12 concurrent high-impact initiatives, spanning both new product developments and in-market product enhancements, each with medium to high complexity, ensuring seamless alignment with organizational growth objectives.
- Established a robust multi-sourcing strategy, successfully mitigating supply chain vulnerabilities and delivering tangible reductions in standard costs, thereby enhancing overall supply resilience.
- The Steered regulatory compliance initiatives, successfully driving the RoHS transition for a flagship program and achieving full compliance ahead of the internal milestone date of July 31, 2014.
- Pioneered a cross-functional engagement framework, introducing bi-weekly strategic alignment forums with CFTs and Business Units, accelerating issue resolution cycles-a best practice that was institutionalized across all program portfolios.
- Played a cornerstone role in the recruitment and establishment of a high-performing product operations team in Bangalore, driving operational agility and scalability to meet business objectives.
- Directed a cross-functional leadership team, overseeing both New Product Program Managers and Product Lifecycle Program Managers, in collaboration with the Product Engineering team, to ensure seamless program execution and lifecycle management.

#### Highlights:

- Orchestrated the critical transfer of program ownership to the India leadership team, successfully elevating standard margins from 55% to 59% through value engineering (VE) initiatives and aggressive cost optimization strategies.
- Delivered risk mitigation outcomes exceeding \$3M over two consecutive years by proactively managing Last Time Buys (LTBs), coupled with an \$800K reduction in Excess & Obsolete (E&O) inventory for high-velocity product lines.
- Honored with the highest recognition from the BU VP/GM for exceptional leadership, strategic execution, and measurable impact, receiving the prestigious CAP (Cisco Achievement Program) award.
- Accelerated career trajectory, achieving a rapid promotion within just five months of joining Cisco, reflecting exemplary performance and leadership excellence in driving business transformation.

### Cypress Semiconductors India Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore | Operations Analyst Staff/Manager | Oct'06-Dec'11

#### **Key Result Areas:**

- Instrumental in orchestrating the end-to-end setup of new parts leveraging Oracle Suites (PLM, OBOM), and spearheading lifecycle governance including status transitions and comprehensive parameter management through robust ECN and ECO frameworks.
- Supporting both New Product Introductions and existing shipping product lines.
- Pivotal contributor to enterprise-wide Data Quality enhancement initiatives, driving measurable improvements that delivered transformative operational outcomes:
  - Reduced supply chain data quality defects from 18.8% to an industry-leading 0.68%.
  - Minimized data discrepancies between manufacturing ecosystems (MP and FP) from 63% to an exceptional 3.5%.
  - O Delivered substantial operational efficiencies and cost optimizations, contributing directly to bottom-line impact:
  - O Drove down subcontractor special charges from \$3.5M (2006) to \$400K (2008), resulting in significant virtualized cost savings.
  - O Cut on-time delivery defect rate from 14% to 1.2%, generating over \$100,000 in quarterly savings by eliminating expedited hot lots.
- Authored and institutionalized business-critical processes for data quality management across essential operational KPIs, including Yield, Cycle Time, Units Per Hour (UPH), Overall Equipment Effectiveness (OEE), and Work in Progress (WIP), establishing a cadence for weekly performance tracking and continuous improvement.
- Delta trategic knowledge transfer initiatives to ensure seamless capability building and operational alignment across global sites:
  - Orchestrated the transition of SCM Operations Planning and Management expertise from Cypress-Manila to Cypress-Bangalore (Feb'10 Mar'10 & Apr'10), enabling process continuity and regional scaling.
  - Directed cross-continental transfer of SCM Operations Planning and Management frameworks from Cypress-San Jose, USA to Cypress-Bangalore (Jan'10-Feb'10), fortifying global supply chain integration.
  - Championed the transfer of operational excellence methodologies (OEE) and the harmonization of Master and Factory Planning data from Cypress-Manila to Cypress-Bangalore (May ?08), driving data alignment and operational synergy.

# 💼 Previous Experience

Abante Services India Pvt. Ltd. Bangalore (Group of Corry Micronics, PA, USA) | Manufacturing Manager | Oct'05-Sep'06

Solectron Centum Electronics Ltd., Bangalore | Assistant Manager-Production, Process & PPC | Jan'99-Oct'05

Milestone Al Co. Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore | Product & PPC Engineer | Dec'97-Jan'99

Sahney Paris Rhone Auto Electricals Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore | Product & PPC Engineer | Sep'96-Nov'97