

Ron Gilson

Vice President and CIO



Ron Gilson is Vice President and CIO of Johnsonville, LLC where he is a member of the senior executive team. In his current role he has global responsibility for Information Technology. Ron joined Johnsonville as a programmer/analyst in 1991, became coach of the Enterprise Applications Team in 1994 and CIO in 1998.

From 2004 – 2009 Ron was the program manager for the deployment of SAP at Johnsonville. In 2013 he took on responsibility for the implementation of a company-wide Lean/CI program. As the corporate sponsor of the Lean initiative he was tasked with building out the CI team and creating and executing the overall CI vision and strategy. In 2016 initiated and led the development and deployment of an Integrated Business Planning process at Johnsonville. In 2019 Ron took on additional opportunities leading the Product Portfolio and Project Management teams as well as global responsibilities for Product Master Data.

Johnsonville has been an active ASUG (America's SAP User Group) member for almost 15 years. In May of 2017, Ron was elected to the ASUG Board of Directors.

He received his Bachelors and Masters degrees in Business Administration from the University of Wisconsin – Oshkosh.

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About Johnsonville, LLC

Wisconsin-based Johnsonville is the No. 1 national brand of brats, Italian sausage, smoked-cooked links and fresh breakfast sausage links. In the last decade, Johnsonville has seen a 500 percent increase in productivity, going from a small local company, to one that does business globally. Today, Johnsonville Sausage products are available to retailers and the foodservice industry in all 50 states and 40 countries including France, Japan, Canada, China, Mexico and the United States. Johnsonville employs approximately 1,800 members, and each of them takes ownership of product quality to ensure the excellence and "Big Taste" of Johnsonville Sausage.

In addition to being named one of the Best Small and Medium Places to Work in the U.S. by HR Magazine and earning the National Provisioner's HREVOLUTION Award for the company's innovative approach to health-and-wellness programs, Johnsonville's culture has been recognized in numerous publications including: *Harvard Business Review*, *Fortune Magazine*, *Inc. Magazine*, *Wall Street Journal*, and *HR Magazine*.

Founded in 1945 by Ralph F. & Alice Stayer, the company remains privately owned today.