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Summary

- Quality Engineering with over 20 years of experience in OEMs, defense, aerospace, and special projects in Technology, Product Development and Production phases.
- Known for flexibility and agility to accomplish common goals and influencing without authority.
- Data driven decision maker with strong analytical skills and System Engineering Approach.

Experience

Quality Engineer, *John Deere Global Crop Harvesting Product Development Center, USA.* ***2017 – Present***

- [Accomplishment] + [Metric] + [How] + [Business Impact]
- Background:
  - Delivered on time
  - Small program – brought many automation features (7-8 specific customer facing features – combine auto unload, GSA, FLP)
  - Managed quality – program QE – internally represented all of the quality tasks, worked with 6 or 7 other quality engineers, managed their workflow, schedule/timeline, published/highlighted any risk to the program, presented to the PLMT, product council, factory leadership, etc.
  - Risk management:
    - CAU (combine auto unload) – tells us when grain cart is full, so we don't spill. The camera position needs to be correct to not miss spilling. Risk is minimized by mistake proofing in the shop for the camera position. High risk number was eliminated.
  - 20%+ increase in customer productivity with these features
  - Made sure that defects (NCCAs/CARs) were not repeated year to year – reduced repeat issues X% year to year.
  - Made sure that new defects were fixed and delivered year to year – fixed 80+ NCCAs/issues + 1400 VISION events.
  -
- Core Program QE for MY26 PDP Features
  - Ensured quality for ~8 new automation features, providing a 20%+ increase in customer productivity, with a reduction of repeat NCCAs/CARs by X% year to year, resolving 80+ NCCAs and 1400 VISION events, tracking overall program risk and presenting to PLMT, product council, and factory leadership.
- Led and shined as a core Program QE during MY26 PDP Quality activities including risk management.
- Led Yield 3.0, yield monitoring project and applied System Engineering Approach for better thought processes from cross functions.
- Led LPB wire harness integration programs from quality perspectives for large combines.
- Led Durability Build activities and led Feasibility Build Activities for Mercury Program.
- Led quality aspects of Caribou Flex Knife Fabrication (weld) fixture qualification, part ISIRs, repairs, and CI.
- Led quality aspects of Electrical Harness related build activities on multiple programs at multiple phases.
- Analyzed Warranty data and Drove intentional testing and corrective actions to close identified gaps from 126 Sensor application reviews for speed, temperature, pressure, proximity, position sensors on the combine for feasibility, durability, and limited production builds. Teams involved suppliers and cross functional members.
- Underwent ESPA training at Fargo and got familiar with JDS – G194 and G156 standards and other processes.
- Managed a quality assurance project for **135** assemblies for a large combine program.
- Initiated combining the redundant quality review procedures in a single meeting to save time; resulted in reduction in **150** plus engineering hours for electrical system department and was adopted by other teams.
- Worked with my team to manage workload, accomplish goals, activities, and timelines for quality activities and deliverables.
- Performed uncompromised qualitative, tactical, and strategic activities involving Quality Planning, Application Reviews, Non-Conformance management (NCCA), System and Process failure modes and effect analysis (FMEAs), design and process assembly reviews (DPARs), Production part approval process (PPAPS). etc.

Result: *Successfully executed Quality Function deliverables in phases 2-5 of EPDP for Combine and FEE programs.*

Module Leader, Quality Services, *John Deere Harvester Works (Combines), USA.* ***2016 – 2017***

- Fixed excessive absenteeism by setting expectations and holding people accountable in quality services.
- Coached, trained, managed qualification, staffing, and scheduling of **35** line-inspectors at Harvester Works.

Result: 100% cross training of Combine and FEE line-inspectors and there were No Overtime Violations.

Quality Engineer, OFP, *John Deere Harvester Works (Combines), USA* ***2014 – 2016***

- Worked on top warranty issues on combines, improved and ensured the quality of ladders, loading augers, grain elevators, transition housings, hydraulic valves, rear axles, sensors, etc. by holding suppliers and cross functional stakeholders accountable for assemblies thinking of internal and external customers.
- Coordinated interdepartmental staff, engineers, production teams, supplier quality teams, and quality services teams to ensure that the products going out from my departments are at the performance standards and were approved to passed on to the next level, adhering to enterprise quality standards.

Result: Reduced **80%** Qnotes on cab-ladder appearances, resolved **5** DTAC and top warranty issues and conducted fast containment actions on supplier parts which were appreciated by the crop harvester leadership.

Logistics Engineer, *J B Hunt (Logistics Company), Arkansas, USA* ***2013 – 2013***

- Helped cost modeling update efforts by writing SQL queries and developing logic.

Result: Successfully completed four projects for back end cost updates that are being used by senior leadership.

Quality Project Manager, *Pella (Windows, Curtain wall, and Doors), Missouri, USA* ***2011 – 2012***

- Initiated and implemented new documentation methods of material handling and revised operational guidelines that resulted in improved product quality and **10%** product rejection.
- Identified and resolved problems (through extensive data gathering and analysis) in calibrations of quality standards. This helped reduce customer complaints and potential litigation issues.
- Worked as a Kaizen team point of contact for employees across various functions and ensured that the organizational goals for continuous improvement were understood and implemented.
- Implemented cost saving ideas to improve product quality. Revised then existed quality control plans to reduce overall rejection rate and improve quality assurance.
- Trained and supervised quality auditors and technicians on quality procedure.

Results: Improved product quality resulting reduction in rejection rate of painted mullions and Jambs **(~10%, $125,000**)

Farm Machinery Specialist, *Division of Agriculture, University of Arkansas, USA* ***2007 – 2011***

- Identified machine evaluation and simulation projects and obtained financial support to execute these projects.
- Planned educational and training programs and executed in the state, local, and regional level.
- Provided machinery and precision agriculture expertise to growers in the state.

Results: Generated over **$500,000** in grants as a Principle Investigator and a collaborator. Published journal articles and publications. Received documented appreciation from several organizations such as John Deere, USDA, Cotton Incorporated, and many Universities on my work as it was directly impacting productivity of stakeholders.

Sr. Research Assistant, *Agricultural Engineering, Universities (South Dakota and Arkansas)* ***2001 – 2006***

- Researched potential of precision agriculture technologies to identify disease infestation and soil compaction. ***Results:*** Completed **3** major projects in cotton and Soybean within time and delivered results in the form of presentation at international Conferences.

Deputy Chief Engineer (Q.C & R&D), *Walchandnagar Industries Limited (Heavy Engineering), India* ***1995 – 2001***

- Led Q.C./Q.A. team ensuring delivery of 6000 Tons of fabricated Nuclear Power Plant Steel structure and other defense l projects like rocket nozzles, rocket cones, rocket booster assemblies, missile launchers, etc.
- Planned stage and final inspection schedules for internal and external third-party audits.
- Facilitated third party quality survey agencies for external quality audits and ISO 9001 documentation.
- Led end to end R&D from concept, design, planning, and field testing of sugarcane harvest system.

Results: 1. Built 25 harvester prototypes in 6 months. 2. Key Quality Personnel of a nuclear power plant project that was granted a bonus of $250,000 from Govt. of India for earlier completion and quality work related to it.

Production Engineer, *Elpro International Limited (X-Ray Machines), India* ***1994 – 1995***

- Planned production and improved processes in machine and press shops for Medical X-Ray machine system.

Results: Increased efficiency in production **(~3%).**

Education

- **MBA**
  Specialization- Business Analytics - University of Iowa, ***2019***
- **Ph.D. Agricultural Engineering**,
  Specialization: Precision Agriculture, University of Arkansas, ***2008***
- **M. S., Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering**,
  Specialization- Precision Agriculture, South Dakota State University, ***2003***
- **M. Tech., Mechanical Engineering**,
  Specialization- Manufacturing Sciences, Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur, India, ***1999***
- **B.S, Mechanical Engineering**, Shivaji University, India, ***1993***

Certifications

- Systems Engineering Fundamentals, Caltech, ***2022***
- Business Analytics Certification, University of Iowa, ***2019***
- Held Level II Certifications in Non-destructive techniques - magnetic particles, ultrasonic, and liquid penetrant ISNT and ASNT, ***1997-1999.***

Service

- Founder of community language school with 8 teachers, 27 students, established, led and handed over
- A member of Board of Directors, STEAM ON WHEELS, a Non-Profit dedicated to youth development.
- Conduced numerous scientific toys making workshops for youth, and made wooden artifacts to raise funds
- Free tutoring sessions for youth on STEM, organizing inspirational lecture series for youth and adults.