

# William C. Bryson

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## Executive-Level Manufacturing Management / Strategic Planning / Operational Excellence / Business Planning

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### Professional Summary

Dynamic and results-driven manufacturing executive for 25+ years with a proven record of leading large-scale operations through strategic vision, disciplined execution, and continuous improvement. Recognized for fostering high-performance cultures, developing future leaders, and driving operational excellence through Lean and Six Sigma methodologies. Adept at aligning manufacturing strategies with corporate goals, leveraging data-driven decision-making, and navigating complex, global environments to deliver sustainable growth and profitability.

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### Core Competencies

- Multi-Site Manufacturing Leadership / Lean Manufacturing & Six Sigma / Improving Productivity
  - Operational Cost Reduction / Workforce Development & Succession Planning
  - Safety & Regulatory Compliance / Process Improvement & Waste Reduction
  - Budgeting & Capital Equipment Purchasing / New Product Development & Launches
  - SDLC & Workflow Optimization / Quality Assurance & Standards Compliance
  - Continuous Improvement / Team Building / Decision-Making / Problem Solving
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### Professional Experience

#### Segmen Manufacturing Corporation – St. Louis, MO

##### Vice President of Manufacturing | June 2011 – Present

Direct operations for six manufacturing plants across Missouri, Georgia, Alabama, and Tennessee, producing luggage handling systems and replacement parts for global markets.

- Provide executive leadership and strategic direction for Plant Managers, ensuring alignment with corporate KPIs for quality, safety, cost, and delivery.
- Champion Lean and Six Sigma methodologies, achieving measurable reductions in waste and gains in efficiency and throughput.
- Collaborate with R&D and Engineering to launch new product lines, supporting innovation and speed-to-market.
- Implement safety programs that significantly reduced workplace injuries, earning the **Daniel D. Latson Award for Safety Excellence (Missouri)**.

- Manage multimillion-dollar budgets covering labor, capital equipment, and operational costs; reduced overhead while improving output.
- Spearhead continuous improvement initiatives, enhancing scalability and profitability across all plants.
- Expanded company footprint with the planning and construction of two new facilities, adding **156,000 sq. ft. of production capacity**.
- Partnered with Sales and Key Accounts to strengthen client relationships and drive account growth.
- **Recognized as Executive of the Year (2018)** for surpassing performance metrics in safety, output, and leadership development.
- Mentored and promoted four team members into Assistant Plant Manager roles, building future leadership capacity.
- Hire, train, supervise, motivate, and evaluate **Mid-Level Management** personnel.
- Opened **New Plant Location** in Wilmington, North Carolina and developed partnership with Work Central Staffing to provide employees.
- Spearheaded “**Just-in-Time**” protocols to control inventory.
- **Speaker** at national convention in Atlanta, Georgia in 2014.
- Spearheaded **New Location Start-Up** in London, England in 2018.
- Received the **John B. Lawson** Award for reducing costs in 2018.

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## APS Manufacturing Corporation – Atlanta, GA

### Plant Manager | April 1996 – June 2011

Led manufacturing operations for a leading global office furniture manufacturer, managing 17 direct-report leaders and 274 production staff.

- Directed budgeting, workforce management, and operational planning to align with corporate profitability goals.
- Implemented Lean Manufacturing principles, improving efficiency and reducing waste.
- Achieved a **14% reduction in operating costs** and a **174% profitability increase** over 11 years.
- Reduced labor force by 25% (366 to 274 employees) while maintaining output and quality standards.
- Developed and launched a plant-wide safety program, later adopted companywide.
- Selected to train Plant Managers across U.S. facilities on safety awareness, reducing injury rates enterprise wide.
- Mentored and advanced 12 employees into Shift Manager positions, strengthening leadership pipelines.

- Recognized as **Employee of the Year (1995)** for leadership, results, and safety contributions.
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## Earlier Roles

- **Assistant Plant Manager & Shift Manager**, Limtech Manufacturing – Denver, CO
  - **Production Employee (Internship)**, Balton Manufacturing – Denver, CO
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## Education & Professional Development

- **MBA**, Georgia Tech University – Atlanta, GA
- **B.S., Mechanical Engineering**, University of Colorado – Boulder, CO
  - Graduated Summa Cum Laude; Named *Top Mechanical Engineering Student*
- Executive-Level Manufacturing Program, North Carolina State University – Raleigh, NC
- Professional Training: Lean Manufacturing | Six Sigma | Statistical Process Control | Quality Standards | Leadership & Communication

**Conference Presenter:** “*How to Achieve Manufacturing Success*” – Baltimore, MD (Topic: Building a Cohesive Workforce)

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## Community Leadership

- Board of Directors – St. Louis Chamber of Commerce
  - Member – Greater St. Louis Manufacturers’ Association
  - Member – Manufacturing Council, St. Louis, MO
  - Volunteer – United Way Fundraising Campaign
  - Board Member – Jackson Regional Hospital, St. Louis, MO
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## Software Skills

- Microsoft Word, Excel & PowerPoint / Zoom / Salesforce / Teams / QuickBooks Online
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## Core Strengths

- Strategic Vision – Ability to see the big picture and translate strategy into operational results.
- Leadership Presence – Inspires confidence and motivates teams toward shared goals.
- Emotional Intelligence – Builds trust, manages conflict, and fosters strong interpersonal relationships.

- Collaborative Communication – Skilled at uniting cross-functional teams and aligning diverse stakeholders.
- Decision-Making Under Pressure – Maintains composure and clarity in high-stakes situations.
- Change Leadership – Guides organizations smoothly through transformation and innovation.
- Accountability & Integrity – Demonstrates ethical leadership and personal responsibility.
- Adaptability – Thrives amid evolving technologies, markets, and global challenges.
- Resilience – Maintains focus and performance through adversity and organizational change.
- Empowerment & Mentorship – Develops talent and cultivates high-performing, engaged teams.
- Negotiation & Influence – Effectively manages partnerships, vendors, and internal alignment.
- Continuous Learning Mindset – Embraces innovation and improvement as ongoing imperatives.