

William C. Bryson

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Profile

Quality-Driven Executive-Level Vice President of Manufacturing

with strong skills and expertise in the following areas:

- Directing Manufacturing Operations at Multiple Site Locations (USA & Canada)
- Continuous Improvement ■ Cost Analysis ■ Team Building ■ Cost Reductions
- Optimizing Workflow, Manufacturing Processes, Productivity & Yields ■ Employee Motivation
- Quality Assurance Management ■ Employee Mentoring & Development

Summary / Strengths

- **Background encompasses extensive executive-level experience** utilizing a strong work ethic and a commitment to meeting and exceeding organizational quality and profitability objectives.
- **Strengths:** Hands-on performance, process, and results-driven management style; able to effectively motivate and manage subordinates; skilled at achieving significant cost reductions; adept at problem identification/problem resolution; consensus builder; achievement-oriented

Core Competencies

- Multi-Site Management
- Process Improvement
- Capital Equipment Purchasing
- Safety
- Reducing Waste
- Determining Production Goals
- Six Sigma Principles
- Cost Management Reduction
- Developing & Implementing Training Programs
- Adherence to Government Regulations
- New Product Development
- Fostering Positive Work Environment

Professional Experience

► **Segmen Manufacturing Corporation**, St. Louis, MO

June 2011 to Present

Vice President of Manufacturing

- Provide executive leadership across six manufacturing plants located in Missouri, Georgia, Alabama, and Tennessee, producing luggage handling systems and replacement parts for domestic and international markets.
- Direct and develop Plant Managers at each location; lead performance reviews, succession planning, and operational alignment with corporate goals.
- Establish and monitor annual production targets, ensuring output exceeds KPIs related to quality, cost, safety, and on-time delivery.
- Champion Lean Manufacturing and Six Sigma methodologies to drive operational efficiency, reduce waste, and improve throughput.
- Collaborate with R&D and Engineering teams to launch new product lines, supporting innovation and speed-to-market strategies.
- Oversee and enforce comprehensive plant safety programs, resulting in a significant reduction in workplace injuries and recognition with the Daniel D. Latson Award for Safety Excellence (State of Missouri).

- Control and optimize manufacturing budgets, including labor allocation, capital equipment investments, and operational expenditures.
- Spearhead implementation of new manufacturing policies and quality systems, resulting in improved product consistency and customer satisfaction.
- Lead continuous improvement initiatives across all facilities to support scalability and cost reductions.
- Partner closely with the Sales and Key Account Management teams to support client retention and large account growth.
- Successfully expanded manufacturing footprint by managing the planning and construction of two new facilities, adding a total of 156,000 sq. ft. of production space.
- Recognized as Executive of the Year (2018) by the Board of Directors for exceeding all performance metrics in safety, output, and team development.
- Mentored and promoted four team members from Shift Manager to Assistant Plant Manager, demonstrating a strong commitment to talent development and leadership succession.

► **APS Manufacturing Corporation, Atlanta, GA**

April 1996 to June 2011

Plant Manager

- Directed full-scale manufacturing operations at the Atlanta facility, overseeing 17 management-level personnel and providing indirect leadership for 274 production employees for this leading global manufacturer of office furniture sold domestically and internationally.
- Managed plant-wide budgeting and cost control in collaboration with Purchasing, Supply Chain, and Finance teams, ensuring alignment with corporate profitability goals.
- Led performance appraisal processes for all management staff and reviewed evaluations of frontline employees in partnership with department heads.
- Championed and implemented Lean Manufacturing methodologies, resulting in increased efficiency, reduced waste, and long-term cost savings.
- Achieved a 14% reduction in operating costs and a 174% increase in profitability over an 11-year period through strategic workforce management and process optimization.
- Successfully reduced plant labor force from 366 to 274 employees while maintaining output, lowering overhead without sacrificing quality or productivity.
- Developed and launched a comprehensive safety program, later adopted company wide as the model for all U.S. plant locations.
- Recognized as Employee of the Year (1995) for outstanding leadership, operational results, and contributions to corporate safety initiatives.
- Hand-selected to train Plant Managers across multiple company locations in safety awareness and best practices, significantly reducing injury rates enterprise-wide.
- Spearheaded the rollout of new manufacturing processes and technologies, driving measurable improvements in productivity and workflow efficiency.
- Promoted internal talent by mentoring and advancing 12 employees to Shift Manager roles, fostering a culture of continuous improvement and leadership development.

<p>Prior Professional Experience</p>

- **Assistant Plant Manager & Shift Manager, Limtech Manufacturing, Denver, CO**
- **Production Employee, College Internship, Balton Manufacturing, Denver, CO**

Education / Presentations

- **MBA**, Georgia Tech University, Atlanta, GA
- **Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering**, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO: Graduated Summa Cum Laude (with Honors); named “Top Mechanical Engineering Student” during senior year
- **Completed Executive-Level Manufacturing Program**, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC
- **Seminars:** Lean Manufacturing; Statistical Process Control; Six Sigma; Effective Leadership Principles; Problem Solving for Executives; Quality Assurance Standards; Effective Communication Skills for Managers
- **Speaker/Presenter:** Speaker at Conference “How to Achieve Manufacturing Success” held in Baltimore, MD; Topic: Building a Cohesive Workforce

Community Involvement

- Member of Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, St. Louis, MO
- Member of Greater St. Louis Manufacturers' Association, St. Louis, MO
- Member of Manufacturing Council, St. Louis, MO
- Volunteer for United Way Fundraising Campaign, St. Louis, MO
- Board Member, Jackson Regional Hospital, St. Louis, MO