# Natalie Richardson

**Vice President** 

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- Transformational operations leader who scaled manufacturing efficiency by 45% while reducing costs \$25M across 18 months, leading 400+ employees across North America and EMEA regions
- Strategic executive with proven P&L ownership of \$180M business unit, delivering 3 consecutive years of double-digit growth in highly competitive industrial automation market
- Change management specialist who successfully integrated 4 acquisitions totaling \$85M, achieving synergy targets 6 months ahead of schedule while maintaining 95% talent retention
- Board-ready executive with expertise in digital transformation, supply chain optimization, and international expansion across manufacturing and technology sectors

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

# **TechManufacturing Solutions**

2020-2024

#### **Senior Director of Operations**

Led \$180M P&L and 400-person global operations team for industrial automation manufacturer (reporting to COO)

- Architected end-to-end digital transformation of manufacturing operations, implementing IoT sensors and predictive analytics that reduced downtime by 35% and increased throughput by \$40M annually
- Spearheaded international expansion into Southeast Asia, establishing 3 manufacturing facilities and distribution network that captured 15% market share within 24 months
- Pioneered sustainable manufacturing initiative reducing carbon footprint by 28% while achieving \$12M cost savings through waste reduction and energy optimization programs
- Built strategic partnership ecosystem with Siemens and ABB, generating \$30M in co-development revenue and accelerating product innovation cycles by 40%
- Led post-merger integration of \$45M acquisition, consolidating operations across 6 facilities while achieving 110% of projected synergies within 18 months

#### GlobalTech Industries

2017-2020

#### **Director of Supply Chain & Logistics**

Managed \$85M procurement budget and 150-person team across US/Canada for \$500M technology components manufacturer

- Redesigned global supply chain network reducing logistics costs by 22% while improving delivery performance to 99.2% on-time delivery across 12 countries
- Negotiated strategic supplier partnerships worth \$120M, implementing vendor consolidation strategy that improved quality metrics by 30% and reduced supply base by 40%
- Launched supplier diversity program achieving 25% minority/women-owned business participation, exceeding corporate targets while maintaining cost competitiveness
- Implemented advanced demand planning system using machine learning algorithms, reducing inventory carrying costs by \$18M while improving service levels

# IndustrialTech Corp

2014-2017

#### **Senior Manager of Operations**

Oversaw manufacturing operations for \$60M business unit with 80-person team reporting to VP Operations

- Led Lean Six Sigma transformation achieving 25% productivity improvement and \$8M cost reduction through process optimization and waste elimination
- Managed facility consolidation project, successfully relocating production from 3 sites to 1 while maintaining customer service levels and achieving \$5M annual savings
- Developed high-performance team culture resulting in 40% improvement in employee engagement scores and 60% reduction in safety incidents

# **Manufacturing Dynamics**

2011-2014

#### **Operations Manager**

Directed day-to-day operations for \$35M production facility with 45-person team

- Implemented ERP system integration improving inventory accuracy to 99.5% and reducing order processing time by 50%
- Achieved ISO 9001 certification within 12 months, establishing quality management systems that reduced customer complaints by 70%

### **Industrial Solutions Inc**

2008-2011

#### **Senior Production Supervisor**

Supervised production operations and 25-person manufacturing team

Increased production efficiency by 20% through workflow optimization and cross-training initiatives

# CORE COMPETENCIES

# Strategic Leadership

P&L Management (\$180M+) | M&A Integration | Digital Transformation | Board Reporting | Stakeholder Management | Change Leadership | Global Team Development (400+ employees) | Strategic Planning | Performance Optimization

### **Domain Expertise**

Manufacturing Operations | Supply Chain Management | Lean Six Sigma | Quality Management Systems | International Expansion | Vendor Management | ERP Implementation | Sustainability Initiatives | Regulatory Compliance | Process Automation

# **Technical & Digital Leadership**

loT Implementation | Predictive Analytics | Advanced Planning Systems | Digital Manufacturing | Data-Driven Decision Making | Technology Integration | Industry 4.0 Transformation | Enterprise Software Selection

#### **HONORS**

# Manufacturing Executive of the Year

2023

#### **Industrial Leadership Magazine**

Manufacturing Executive of the Year - Industrial Leadership Magazine, 2023

#### **Top 40 Operations Leaders Under 45**

2022

#### **Supply Chain Weekly**

Top 40 Operations Leaders Under 45 - Supply Chain Weekly, 2022

#### Innovation in Sustainable Manufacturing Award

2021

#### **Manufacturing Association**

**Innovation in Sustainable Manufacturing Award** - Manufacturing Association, 2021 Project: Led carbon-neutral manufacturing initiative resulting in 28% emissions reduction

#### **PUBLICATIONS**

# The Future of Smart Manufacturing: Beyond Industry 4.0

2023

#### **Harvard Business Review**

"The Future of Smart Manufacturing: Beyond Industry 4.0" - Harvard Business Review, 2023

# Sustainable Operations: Profitability Through Environmental Responsibility

2022

MIT	Sloan	Manad	iement	Review
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"Sustainable Operations: Profitability Through Environmental Responsibility" - MIT Sloan Management Review, 2022

# Quarterly columnist on operational excellence

2021-PRESENT

#### **Manufacturing Today**

Quarterly columnist on operational excellence - Manufacturing Today (2021-Present)

#### SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

### **Keynote Speaker**

2023

#### **Global Manufacturing Summit, Detroit**

Keynote Speaker - Global Manufacturing Summit, Detroit 2023

#### **Panel Moderator**

2022

#### **World Economic Forum, Davos**

Panel Moderator - "Digital Transformation in Manufacturing" - World Economic Forum, Davos 2022

## **Featured Speaker**

2021

#### Lean Manufacturing Conference, Chicago

Featured Speaker - Lean Manufacturing Conference, Chicago 2021

# EDUCATION & EXECUTIVE DEVELOPMENT

# Northwestern Kellogg School of Management

#### **MBA**, Operations Management & Strategy

MBA, Operations Management & Strategy - Northwestern Kellogg School of Management

#### University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

#### **BS**, Industrial Engineering

BS, Industrial Engineering - University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

#### **Harvard Business School**

2023

#### **Advanced Management Program**

Advanced Management Program - Harvard Business School, 2023

#### MIT Sloan Executive Education

2022

#### **Digital Transformation Strategy**

Digital Transformation Strategy - MIT Sloan Executive Education, 2022

#### **Wharton Executive Education**

2021

#### **Global Supply Chain Management**

**ASQ** 

Global Supply Chain Management - Wharton Executive Education, 2021

# Lean Six Sigma Master Black Belt Certification

2019

Lean Six Sigma Master Black Belt Certification - ASQ, 2019



# **Board Member**

2022-PRESENT

# **Manufacturing Excellence Foundation**

Board Member - Manufacturing Excellence Foundation (2022-Present)

# **Advisory Board Member**

2021-PRESENT

# **TechStart Manufacturing Accelerator**

Advisory Board Member - TechStart Manufacturing Accelerator (2021-Present)

# Member

#### **National Association of Manufacturers Executive Council**

Member - National Association of Manufacturers Executive Council

#### Certified

# **Project Management Professional (PMP)**

Certified - Project Management Professional (PMP)