

# Viraj R. Hodarkar

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## Manager Engineering

Approved Canada Work Permit No. E735515501

Highly motivated & results- driven Engineering Manager with 13+ years' experience and a passion for continuous improvement via the deployment of automated solutions in a factory/plant setting. Comprehensive knowledge of Food Production/ FMCG/Chemical Manufacturing environments including project leadership, regulatory compliance, strategic planning, decision making and management reporting. Talented designer with a history of creating innovative processes to overcome obstacles and optimize high-volume production. Adaptable and resourceful professional with the ability to surpass expectations on every engagement while leading cross-cultural and multi-functional teams. Strong blend of technical knowledge and commercial acumen with the capacity to align engineering solutions with evolving business requirements.

## Areas of Expertise

- FMCG/Food/Chemical Industry Expertise
- Electrical Engineering & Automation
- Leadership, Training & Mentoring
- Technical Troubleshooting
- Change Management
- PLC/DCS Programming
- Process Plant Engineering
- Project Management
- Critical Thinking

## Technical Proficiencies

**Technology:** Rs Logix 5000/ Studio 5000/ Logix 500/5 PLC/SCADA, FTview/ Rs View 32- HMI software, Wonderware System Platform 2014 R2- GR, AOS, TES, Yokogawa DCS Centum VP/ Prosafe RS, MS Office Suite, SAP, IVC-3D SICK camera/ Cognex camera, Rockwell Asset Centre/ Drive Executive

**Tools:** Process risk Assessment (PRA) & HACCP, RCA, FMEA, BDA, GSTD

## Professional Experience

**Nestle India Ltd., Ponda, Goa, India**

**05/2016 – 05/2022**

**Manager Engineering- Maintenance & Projects**

*Orchestrate complex engineering initiatives as part of major capital investment projects with a mandate to align technical solutions with corporate objectives, regulatory compliance directives, and quality standards. Lead, train, and mentor a multi-functional team of engineers and technicians. Act as factory SPOC for DMO and FAS Champion. Responsibilities included:*

- Track and analyze project workstreams to ensure completion on time and within budgetary constraints.
- Define user and technical specifications as owner of mission critical phases of major Capital projects such as solution development, testing, implementation, and user training.
- Maintain a deep technical understanding of plant solutions including alignment with local/regional legislation & regulations.
- Implement enterprise-wide best practice Health & Safety processes and protocols to embed a culture of safety.
- Develop a change and transformation framework to handle modifications in MES-E&A solutions.
- Create and roll out robust automated processes as part of the continuous improvement cycle leading to exceptional efficiency, productivity, quality control and safety in Process Engineering.
- Prepare accurate MES-E&A documentation including electrical drawings & circuits, URS, FDS, and calibration procedures.
- Implement DMO performance, NCCS, and energy module at the plant, enabling various departments to monitor asset intensity and track metrics such as production, QMS entries, energy and overall performance.
- Collaborate with cross-functional teams to drive maintenance and improvement of the factory production line.

### **Achievements:**

- Successfully completed the E&A related end-to-end delivery of a new KitKat line including automated primary and secondary processes with fully automated CIP plant despite challenges posed by Covid-19.
- Successfully completed the Factory automation systems project with upgrade and installation of servers with databases and factory floor IS/IT network
- Achieved a 90% reduction in consumer complaints by rolling out the solid bar camera project.
- Continuously improved the asset intensity of molding line by effectively eliminating perennial issues.
- Oversaw a pioneering project (first in SAR region) involving a performance tracking system installation for the KITKAT line.
- Swiftly supported business need for MUNCH delivery by setting up idle assets and increasing production capacity during pandemic.
- Led E&A initiatives across several product lines including Project Wonka, Flavored KitKat, KitKat mini, and Flavored Nestle classic.

- Fostered strong working relationships with vendors and delivered cost savings of INR 10 MIO.

## **Syngenta India Ltd., Santa Monica, Goa, India** **Automation & Instrumentation Engineer**

**02/2014 – 05/2016**

*Made significant contributions to the ongoing management and enhancement of plant production as Automation & Instrumentation Engineer. Responsibilities included the following:*

- Tracked performance against core metrics to identify issues, flag areas for improvement, and achieve optimal plant availability in relation to agreed production targets facilitating meetings and stakeholder communication.
- Accountable as Engineer for the cost, schedule and quality of the discipline scope of work. Responsible for parting technical support between disciplines and coaching/developing junior engineer trainees and technicians
- Oversaw preventive maintenance programs and Coordinate with a focus on critical areas such as Health & Safety and quality.
- Independently managed automation and instrumentation projects through to on-time delivery within budget
- Identified new and emerging solutions to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of maintenance protocols.
- Directed complex equipment installations in line with all relevant compliance standards and internal policies.
- Rolled out safety regulations and educated employees to proactively reduce accident volume.
- Owned the electrical and instrumentation aspect of engineering HS&E compliance returns for the plant.
- Utilized document management systems to execute MOC, procurement, invoicing, and compliance workstreams.
- Leading meetings & prepared monthly reports to enable management decision-making and communications with the stakeholders.

### **Achievements:**

- Successfully improved overall availability for two plants by 10% having deployed innovative new processes.
- Programmed and delivered 16 new LFCs for thermal oxidizer leading to increased efficiency (15%).
- Conceptualized and rolled out the Safety PLC (SIS) project for thermal oxidizer plants to minimize safety risks.
- Enhanced the Wet Electrostatic Precipitator availability from 22 trippings in 2013 to 1 tripping in 2014.

## **Additional Experience**

Senior Engineer- Electrical & Instrumentation, BT Composites Ltd, Binani Industries Ltd., Ponda  
Electrical Engineer, MRF Ltd., Chennai

## **Education, Training & Certifications**

**Master of Engineering (M.E) in Power & Energy Systems Engineering**, Goa Engineering College - Ponda, Goa, India  
*Verified International Academic Qualifications by WES*

**Bachelor of Engineering (B.E) in Electrical & Electronics**, Goa Engineering College - Ponda, Goa, India  
*Member of Students Council | Verified International Academic Qualifications by WES*

Rslogix5000: Motion Programming, using Ladder Logic, Rockwell Automation, Noida

Application Object Server & Historian- Archestra Network, SSM infotech, Surat

Prosafe RS Engineering, Yokogawa, Bangalore

Certified Competent Electrical Supervisor for System up to 33 KV, Govt of Goa, India

Networked Control Logix System, Rockwell Automation, Noida

ISO 9001:2008, ISO14000:2004 & OHSAS 18001:2007 Integrated Management System- Internal Auditors Training

## **Honors & Awards**

**Guest Speaker:** Represented Nestle India (Digital transformation journey) at AVEVA WORLD CONFERENCE (11/2018)

**Grow2Win - Winning Edge (12/2021), Nestle India:** Recognized for outstanding contribution towards Project Max- on time installation, commissioning, and startup of new KITKAT line during the uncertainty of Covid-19.

**Grow2Win - Winning Edge (03/2021), Nestle India:** Supported the business and increased capacity during Covid-19.

**Grow2Win - Winning Edge (03/2021), Nestle India:** Drove digitization initiatives such as a DMO & virtual factory tour.

**Grow2Win - Winning Edge (06/2017), Nestle India:** Awarded for proactive problem solving and innovation

**Syngenta Gracias Award (11/2015), Syngenta India:** Delivered MOC's related to process capability enhancement line.

**Syngenta Gracias Award (06/2014), Syngenta India:** Commissioned a Safety PLC system for Thermal oxidizer Plant.

## **Languages**

English, Hindi, Konkani, and Marathi (IELTS Score: Band 7)