

JEFFREY A. KANZ, CAPM®

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OPERATIONS LEADER

**18 Years Business Career in Production Operations | Annual Production Volume \$24mm
10% Estimated Annual Cost Savings | Single Project Team Management Responsibility \$5.5mm**

Operations leader with an expertise in quality and project management. Proven record of savings, and productivity improvement in the consumer goods industry. An empathetic leader known for taking a personal approach to team development. A servant leader with an authentic style in mentoring. Skilled at guiding and developing a team of success-focused individuals to achieve production goals and improve efficiency.

Team Leadership | Operations Management | Project Management | 6-Sigma Yellow Belt |
Mentor | ISO9001 | Kaizen Initiatives | Process Improvement | Communication

PROFESSIONAL

WISCONSIN FAUCETS, KOHLER COMPANY, Kohler, WI

1998 – 2020

Manufacturer of smart kitchen and bath products, powerful engines and generators, and a host of world-class hospitality experiences.

Managing Technician – Physical Vapor Deposition (PVD) Operations (2015 – 2020)

Served as Lead Technician responsible for all aspects of production, development of procedures, maintenance and troubleshooting, team training, and procurement.

- Selected to serve as technical expert/owner for PVD Operations. **Result:** Maintained or improved all success measurements in 4 categories: safety, quality, delivery, and cost.
- Identified, developed, and led business initiative of a \$5.5 million re-investment in the North America Faucets Division to upgrade of all Hauzer 1500 PVD machines. **Result:** Transitioned to new PVD machinery and eliminated the necessity for a complete line shut down.
- Assessed, evaluated, and established a new competitive bid structure for the company's consumable raw materials needs. **Result:** Spearheaded savings of 5% to 20% over the old structure.
- Generated material and process savings through systems improvements and purchasing efficiencies. **Result:** Saved approximately \$24,000 per year, through recycling efforts alone.
- Initiated and worked collaboratively to develop intercompany best practices focusing on addressing trust and communications concerns. **Result:** Created open channels of communication facilitating the creation of a division-wide investment in best-practices.
- Managed all development-related projects for the area from initial planning through project closure. **Result:** Increased approved deliverable product finishes by 40% from 2018 - 2020.
- Identified, mentored, and provided in-depth training to develop individuals who displayed interest and aptitude in Continuous Improvement. **Result:** Promoted positive cultural shifts and engagement among the team.
- Developed and led team kaizen initiatives focused on improved workflow and Lean Manufacturing improvements. **Result:** Improved quarterly process in product flow and communication.
- Initiated and managed PVD Insulator transition to an improved style. **Result:** Achieved higher system reliability, quality and cost reductions, and reduced downtime due to related incidents by nearly 50%.

Team Leader (2008 – 2015)

Served as Servant/Leader for 35+ associates across 3 major departments: Metal Finishing Operations, Chrome Plating Operations, and Special Finish Operations.

- Tracked efficiencies and operations management of production floor. **Result:** Met goals of safety, quality, delivery, and cost.
- Directed and implemented Project Management of outside contractor cleaning groups. **Result:** Reduced the need for permanent headcount and increased efficiency and reliability of critical work done.
- Started cross-training rotation for Special Process Operators to learn multiple job functions in area. **Result:** Increased job satisfaction and higher production efficiency by 10% over single function associates.
- Recruited and led Safety Team of 10 rotational volunteers to Identify and correct safety issues. **Result:** promoted Culture-Of-Safety throughout organization resulting in significant reduction in recordable incident rate (>20%).
- Served as Area Coordinator for the United Way campaign. **Result:** Combined company sustainability efforts raised over \$300,000 per year.
- Initiated Kaizen event focusing on organization and product flow for the Tube Cell manufacturing cell. **Result:** Improved operating space by 30% and reduced setup times by 15%.
- Developed and implemented racking and identification system improve space, utilization, and identification of materials. **Result:** Reduced plating rack space by approximately 15%, reduced scrap by 10% year to year, and improved training and traceability of materials.
- Managed Kaizen initiatives for production reorganizations of manufacturing cells. **Result:** Achieved process improvements in efficiency and workflow of cells while involving associates to improve engagement and morale.

PVD Technician II (2003 – 2008)

Managed PVD processes for Wisconsin Faucets, including development and operations of the production processes, quality management, and maintenance of the processes and equipment.

- Consulted with Nanchang Global Faucets to share best practices, refine China system workflow, and provide mechanical training for new systems. Partnership involved travel to Nanchang and continued correspondence. **Result:** Built relationships and collaboration with sister plant and contributed to very high growth rate in that emerging market.
- Partnered with technical team to establish, develop, and grow the PVD operations, procedures, and tooling. **Result:** Increased PVD capacity by 67%, and available finishes developed by 40%.

Union Associate in Plating (2000-2003)

Responsible for racking/unracking of brass components for plating operations – plating line operations – charge out and delivery – material movement and organization.

- Mastered all aspects of the department; promoted to Acting Foreman of Special Finishes/Plating in 2002.

EDUCATION & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Bachelor of Arts, Calvin College, Grand Rapids, MI

CERTIFICATIONS & MEMBERSHIPS

- Certified – 6-Sigma Yellow Belt
- Certified – Associate in Project Management (CAPM)[®] – Project Management Institute
- Certified – Team Leader, Kohler Company, 2010
- Member – American Society of Quality