

Nikolaus A. Kassler *MS, PMP*

Joplin, MO
email: nik.kassler@pragmatic-innovations.com

phone: 620.232.4661
web: www.pragmatic-innovations.com

Overview:

- Broad-based **Technical Project Management** and **Product Development Engineering** proficiency.
- Certified project manager experienced with process, product, and capital asset improvement projects.
- Comprehensive electromechanical product engineering experience (concept through production).
- Extensive manufacturing engineering background (metals, composites, ceramics, and general assembly).
- Process work-center development for manual, semi-automated, and heavy automation.
- Plant engineering, facilities management, and industrial energy efficiency skill-set.
- Extensive Quality Management System knowledge (AS-9100, ISO-9001, TS-16949).

Education/ Professional Development:

- **Master of Science in Engineering Technology, Pittsburg State University**
Emphasis: Product Design and Development (3.82 GPA)
- **Bachelor of Science in Engineering Technology, Pittsburg State University**
Double Major: Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering
- **Project Management Professional (PMP)**
Certified through Program Management Institute (PMI)
- **D.O.E. AirMaster+ Certification**
Department of Energy compressed air systems efficiency expert

Professional Experience:

- **Project Management/ Project Engineering**
 - Project management for new product development and delivery (various industries).
 - Project management for industrial building/ grounds expansion and improvements.
 - Budget planning and allocation management (up to \$12M).
 - Project schedule planning, communication, and management (MS Project & other).
 - Risk management planning, monitoring, and strategy deployment.
 - Direction of personnel and equipment resources for timely accomplishment of project activities.
 - Work Break-Down Structures (WBS) and Resource Assignment Matrices (RAM) management.
 - Presentation of project status reports to internal and external stakeholders.
 - Support business development functions to produce accurate quotes and proposals.
 - Proposal and white paper generation for government contracts and grants.
- **Product Development/ Design Engineering**
 - Computer modeling and simulation of design concepts (SolidWorks, Autodesk Inventor, & others).
 - Generation of detailed design and production documentation packages.
 - Technical writing of product literature (install/assembly guides, user manuals, SDS, & test reports).
 - Product specification and compliance verification of customer requirements.
 - Reverse engineering of existing products and redesign for cost, quality, and/or quantity requirements.
 - Prototype development for functional testing of design concepts.
 - Design of Experiments (DOE) for cost-effective product development.
 - Product engineering for reserve type Lithium battery programs.
 - Product engineering for active primary and secondary Lithium cells and batteries.
 - Design and development leader for ballistic armor product lines (facility, vehicle, & personnel).
 - Component redesign for ceramic material substitution for advanced applications.
- **Manufacturing Engineering**
 - Tooling, die, and fixture design for processing, handling, and measurement equipment.
 - Non-value time reductions in set-up and tooling changeovers (SMED) and cycle time optimization.
 - Specialty machine design and build (manual & automated, various industries).
 - Human and robotic cellular workstation layout, installation, and start-up.

- Reverse engineering of existing products to define manufacturing process requirements.
- Development and supervision of preventative maintenance programs.
- Process line development (tech. ceramics, heat treatment, composites, metal fabrication, assembly).
- CNC machine programming, set-up, and operation (machining/ turning centers, wire/ sinker EDM).
- Operation of manual machining equipment (mill, lathe, surface/ diameter grinding).
- 20+ years of general metal fabrication background (structural and sheet metal).
- Supervision of production support technicians.
- Lead on numerous Lean, 5s, 6σ, and Kaizen projects.
- **Plant Engineering/ Facilities Management**
 - Cost-benefit analysis for capital investments.
 - Design and implementation of industrial support and utilities systems for optimal efficiency.
 - Energy efficiency audits of industrial facilities.
 - Design and incorporation of integrated and stand-alone structures for plant auxiliary equipment.
 - Development and supervision of Computer Maintenance Management System for plant assets.
 - Integration of energy management systems (pneumatic, hydraulic, electric, & thermal).
 - Management of outside contractors: fire safety, security, maintenance, and construction.
 - Technical training and direction of key plant maintenance personnel.
- **Quality Management Systems**
 - Project lead for initial QMS implementations (ISO-9001, AS-9100, & TS-16949).
 - ERP/ MRP program development, implementation, and management (PLEX, E2 Shop Systems, other).
 - Development and coordination for customer Production Part Approval Process (PPAP).
 - Expansion and application of controlled Product Development Process (PDP).
 - First Article Inspection Administrator in an AS-9100 QMS (finished goods authorization).
 - Coordination of materials testing and evaluation (raw material through finished goods).
 - Supplier approval and compliance auditor in an AS-9100 QMS.
 - Quality Engineer for AS-9100 QMS (compliance with specifications and regulatory requirements).
 - Generation of process quality control documentation (Gage R&R, MTBF, OEE, Cpk, TPM).
 - Generation of production process docs. (work instructions, job travelers, process specifications).
 - High volume, high precision live quality assurance implementation (in process gauging).

Employment History:

- **NK Pragmatic Innovations – Joplin, Missouri**
 - Owner/ Operator (January 2020 to Present)
- **EaglePicher Technologies – Joplin, Missouri**
 - R&D Project Manager (June 2018 through December 2019)
 - Project Engineer (March 2014 through June 2018)
- **DefBar Systems – Lebanon, Missouri**
 - Design Engineer (September 2010 through March 2014)
- **Cerenesis – Lebanon, Missouri and Detroit, Michigan**
 - Process Engineer (July 2012 through November 2013)
- **Precision Cutter and Tool – Lebanon, Missouri**
 - Tool Design Engineer (November 2009 through September 2010)
- **Independent Engineering Consultant – Lebanon, Missouri**
 - Design and Systems Engineering (May 2009 through September 2010)
- **Emerson Climate Technologies – Lebanon, Missouri and Natchitoches, Louisiana**
 - Facilities Manufacturing Engineer (July 2006 through January 2009)
 - Production Engineer (July 2004 through July 2006)

Additional Credentials:

- **Google Data Analytics Professional Certificate**
- **ASME Boiler operation, maintenance and safety training**
- **ASME Y14.5 and ASME Y14.100 training**
- **EPA 608 HVAC technician certification (universal)**
- **Class E driver's license**