

# Harry F. Schiestel, CET, CQA

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## PROFILE

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An acclaimed expert in Continuous Improvement and Problem Solving [thinking, tools and discipline], who delivers business excellence and increased return for shareholders. Diverse experience as a senior manager, with a strong business acumen encompassing strategic planning, leadership development, mentoring, project management and business systems deployment. A change agent, adept at separating priorities between the trivial many and the vital few. A business leader with an innovative, entrepreneurial flair, who engages staff and delivers on strategic initiatives.

## CAREER SUMMARY

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### **E-ZSIGMA [CANADA] INC.**

**2007 - PRESENT**

**Technical Account Manager** [part-time independent contractor]

- Provides technical consulting to clients and facilitates Lean Kaizen and Six Sigma improvements.

### **WESCAST INDUSTRIES INC.**

**1984 - 2007**

**Director of Quality**

**2002 - 2007**

- Initiated Six Sigma problem solving, acting in the role of Master Black Belt, coaching and reviewing projects, enabling trained Black Belts to practically solve everyday and chronic problems, which improved productivity and resulted in cost impacts of \$12 million in a four-year period. Publicly recognized as being the top problem solver within the history of Wescast.
- Led the Quality team to plan and develop corporate quality strategic direction, covering Lean, Six Sigma, Quality Management Systems and Supplier Development. Presented plan to Senior Management for approval, resulting in reducing operating budget by 42% over four years.
- Collaborated with suppliers to implement continuous improvement practices within their businesses, which improved quality of incoming parts for production of outgoing products. This created a partnership strategy, which contributed to a two-fold improvement in critical purchases.
- Developed, implemented and maintained Quality Management Systems, which resulted in consistently exceeding the North American Auto Industry and ISO quality system requirements.
- Recognized potential future leaders, mentoring leadership candidates on problem solving, improvement strategies, Deming and Total Quality Management [TQM]. Provided them with the ability to critically assess areas for improvement and the skills to facilitate change management. Seventy percent of the candidates achieved plant leadership status within three to five years.

**Corporate Quality Leader, Senior Quality Specialist**

**1994 - 2002**

- Assisted team in root cause analysis on a plant failure valued at \$8.5 million, minimizing future risk to the plant. Challenge was to find root cause without an opportunity to replicate the failure.
- Consulted, trained and led the Statistical Process Control [SPC] process, resulting in being one of two companies in the world to achieve the Ford Q1 Award with 50 out of 50 per SPC Methods.
- Developed GAP analysis and overall plan to secure quality management system registration to ISO 9001 / QS-9000, being one of the first 300 companies worldwide to receive this registration.
- Championed and facilitated cause and effect based problem solving [Joiner 7-Step] process in the metallurgical laboratory, improving quality by 75% and productivity by 50%, while reducing space required by 30% and overall operational expenses by 35% in a 12-month period.

**Shift Leader** [Assistant Plant Leader, reporting to the Chairman]

**1993 - 1994**

**Production Department Manager**

**1992 - 1993**

- Managed and provided work direction and guidance to a team of 120 employees, encouraging them to provide their individual best and acting on their personal suggestions to impact performance, contributing to reversing the plant to a profitable status within a one-year period.

**Quality Manager, Supplier Quality, Production Supervisor, Engineering 1984 - 1992**

## **EDUCATION / PROFESSIONAL DESIGNATIONS**

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**Manufacturing Engineering Technology Diploma**, Fanshawe College

**Six Sigma Black Belt**, American Society for Quality, and eZ-sigma Inc.

**Certified Quality Auditor**, American Society for Quality, CQA designation

**Certified Engineering Technologist**, OACETT, CET designation

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

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Senior Member, American Society for Quality [ASQ]

Certified Member, The Ontario Association of Certified Engineering Technicians and Technologists

## **INTERNATIONAL PUBLICATIONS**

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Supplier Management Handbook, ASQ Quality Press, Milwaukee, Wisconsin [1994] [Pages 94 - 103]

Continuous Improvement Symposium 6, General Motors, Oshawa, Ontario [1992] [Pages 442 - 477]

## **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

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- Scanlon Leadership Network, Grand Rapids, Michigan, USA
- Keynote Lecturer at ADMI's Masters of Engineering in Design and Manufacturing, ADMI Canada
- Continuous Improvement Symposium 6, General Motors, Oshawa, ON, Canada

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

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- Quality, Productivity and Competitive Position, W. Edwards Deming, Ph.D.
- Six Sigma Black Belt, Steven Salzman [ASQ]
- Lean / Toyota Production System, Erik Hager
- Statistical Process Control [SPC], Bryon Doss
- Ford Team Oriented Problem Solving 8-D
- International Taguchi Methods Symposium
- Achieving Personal Excellence
- Canada Awards for Excellence, Total Quality Site Examiner, National Quality Institute [NQI]
- Design of Experiments, EVOP, MSA [OCAPT]
- ISO 9001 / QS-9000 and ISO 14000 Auditor / Lead Auditor Training
- Chrysler 7-Step Problem Solving
- Successful Negotiations
- Motivation and Leadership

## **COMPUTER SKILLS**

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Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, Visio, Excel, FrontPage, Photoshop, Minitab statistical software

## **INTERESTS**

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Golf, Clubmaking, W. E. Deming Management Theories, Collecting Sports Memorabilia / Autographs