



Leadership Biography



WILLIAM J. KRAATZ
DIRECTOR

Bill holds a Master's of Science in Business Administration from Central Michigan University and Bachelor of General Studies from Wayne State University.

Bill has over 37 years of experience working at one of the world's largest global automotive manufacturers. He has held numerous supervisory, manager, and executive positions in Manufacturing, Reliability Engineering, Supplier Development, Supplier Quality, Program Management, and Purchasing often managing hundreds of employees and responsible for multi-billion dollar budgets.

Bill has contributed to the development of many quality processes and procedures that became corporate standards and eventually industry standards, such as Advanced Product Quality Planning (APQP), Production Part Approval Process (PPAP), and Parts per Million (PPM).

Furthermore, Bill played a leadership role in driving quality, delivery, and operational improvement in the North American supply base. Bill's efforts produced 50% improvement in PPM and Supplier Disruptions year over year for several years while increasing on time part delivery to all vehicle assembly plants.

Bill has also played a leadership role in numerous North American product launches in the last 15 years with specific responsibilities in the APQP and Program Management areas. Bill's key responsibilities were to ensure supply base readiness and flawless execution of new vehicles programs. Many of these vehicles were recognized as "Car / Truck of the Year" by industry analysts.

Additionally, Bill has several years of international experience as well having worked and lived in the Asia Pacific for over 5 years. During that time Bill was the Director of Supplier Quality for the Asia Pacific region (Singapore), Director of Program Management for a Global Vehicle Platform (Australia), and Executive Director of Purchasing (Australia). Bill was instrumental in establishing standardized quality processes and procedures to support Vehicle and Powertrain manufacturing operations in the Asia Pacific. Bill played an integral role in the qualification of the supply base in Thailand and China to support new vehicle assembly operations in those respective countries, while at the same time significantly improving the supply base performance for vehicle assembly plants in Indonesia, India, Taiwan, and Australia.

While at TPS, Bill has provided senior project leadership for a Department of Defense Contractor for Heavy Equipment & Armored Personnel Vehicles (USA), an International Automotive Joint Venture for Commercial Vehicles (China), and a new vehicle launch for a Global Automotive OEM (USA). His areas of focus have been in Project Management, Supplier Management, First Article Approval, Purchasing, Supplier Quality, and Supply Chain Management.