Wesley Hoover

Program Manager

Innovative and motivated professional with comprehensive experience in managing customer portfolios, successful program launches, and leading cross function teams. Track record of ensuring exceptional customer experience, managing scope to meet deadlines, and providing professional development leadership to team members. Talent for conceptualizing new ideas, carrying the voice of the customer, advanced problem solving skills in a fast paced environment, and implementing lean 6 sigma and continuous improvement practices into new program development. Prudent in employing exceptional leadership, communication, and technical skills with ability to excel in dynamic, fast-paced environments.

Areas of Expertise

- Program Management
- Problem Solving & Negotiation
- ♦ Lean 6 Sigma

- Project Management
 - Risk Management
- Technical Knowledge
- Customer Management
- Team Leadership & Development
- Operations Management

Professional Experience

Niagara Bottling, Jan 2020 - Present

Program Manager, Jan 2022 - Present

Leading and overseeing program changes from inception to successful implementation for Pepsi, Coke, Sam's Club, Nestle, and Mark Anthony Brewing. Lead internal cross functional teams consisting of Sales, Engineering, IT, PLM, Compliance, Beverage Development, Product Development, Packaging Development, Quality, Procurement, Replenishment, Project Management, Supply Chain, Logistics, and Manufacturing as well as customer cross functional teams. Responsible for managing the timeline, resources, scope, and customer relationship of the project on industry leading manufacturing lines and practices. Collaborating with and managing customer relationships and expectations with an emphasis on directing the voice of the customer internally within Niagara. Currently leading and developing a Program team of 2 individuals.

- Lead a PepsiCo Gatorade program covering 3 lines, consisting of aseptic and hotfill manufacturing practices.
 Developed and maintained the timeline and scope for a successful implementation resulting in an estimated 18 million 24pk eqv. cases for 2023 and 2024. Involved deep diving into Pepsi's procedures, practices, and protocols in order to adapt to their organization structure and successfully bridge this over to Niagara.
- Lead a PepsiCo Propel program covering 3 lines, consisting of cold fill manufacturing practices on a csd line.
 Developed and maintained the timeline and scope for a successful implementation resulting in an estimated 7 million 24pk eqv. Cases in 2022, 2023, and 2024.
- Lead a PepsiCo Aquafina expansion expanding current sites from 5 to 15 make sites and an increased volume output from 40 million 24pk eqv. cases to 140 million 24pk eqv. Cases. This program included a lightweighting effort to reduce overall bottle weight by 2.05g. Successfully worked with Pepsi to adjust their global quality standards to better meet Niagara's manufacturing needs.
- Launched Sam's Club beverage program consisting of 5 products, all of which have successfully been implemented
 and launched, while paving the way for future business with Sam's Club and their parent company Walmart. Annual
 commitments for year 1 consist of 4 million 24pk eqv. cases for each of the 5 products.
- Lead the integration of SAP and EDI for Niagara's Coke, Pepsi, and Nestle accounts. This included managing the scope, budget, development, testing, and implementation. Lead Niagara's onshore and offshore IT and engineering teams along with managing the cross functional communication and meetings with each customer to successfully

create and test all transactions with each customer in a testing environment leading to a successful go live with hypercare support.

- Leading a Mark Anthony Brewing program to commercialize and launch MAS+ into the US market utilizing an
 aseptic process. Current year one volumes consisted of 2 million 24pk eqv cases with volume anticipated to increase
 sustainably year over year.
- Assisted on the commercialization and customer effort of Prime Hydration, Lemon Perfect, and Alani Nu Protein.
- Leading Niagara's aluminum bottle program.
- 2022 outstanding performance award.

Beverage Operations Manager, Nov 2023 - Dec 2024

Interim beverage operations manager for Niagara's Coca Cola portfolio (Powerade, Gold Peak, Minute Maid, Vitamin Water, Smart Water, & Dasani). Opportunity consists of cultivating and capturing synergies across operations functions servicing existing and future business. Responsibilities include:

- Driving alignment across cross functional teams with the objective of driving execution and service for Coca Cola while maximizing cost efficiency.
- Financial and operational impacts of new product launches and potential areas of opportunity.
- Ensuring quality parameters are met in 3PLs.
- Managing customer specific key performance indicators are met and exceeded set forth by the contractual agreements.
- Driving the service vision, strategy, and tactics across the portfolio.

Process Engineer, Jan 2021 – Jan 2022

Utilized lean tools and process improvement strategies to benefit thermal processing on a krones hot fill line and overall line improvement across 9 Krones lines. Improved the overall process of Essentia's proprietary pH system to best perform on the line. Assisted in and or lead the successful implementation of new products coming into the plant from a manufacturing side such as Arizona Tea, Dasani, Propel, Roar, Muse, AloVita, Smart Water, and Essentia.

- Lead weekly downtime meetings targeting reoccurring and large value occurrences to improve throughput across all lines.
- Lead weekly / monthly kaizen events in order to improve preventative maintenance and changeover events to increase efficiency.
- Optimized the hotfill process in order to properly recirculate and not lose product temperature, increasing line throughput.
- Lead the plant during a covid outbreak that hit all of management, leading the plant to its greatest production month in plant history 15,417,297 cases

Continuous Improvement Analyst, Jan 2020 – Jan 2021

Exposure to lean tools in the largest automated beverage facility in the world with a focus on injection, cold fill, csd, hotfill, and variety packing.

- Lead the exploration and conversion of optimizing bottle topload in order to remove corrugate pallet caps for all 1 gallon brands resulting in an annual cost savings of \$554,900.
- Lead the conversion of glue applicators for corrugate to a stitch application resulting in a 46.4% cost savings of \$2682 per month.

• Due to covid, lead the start up and 12 week ramp of 2 Krones high speed lines, leading and organizing internal employees, shifts, and external krones, lantech, and ecolab personnel.

Education

Bachelor of Science, Major in Business Management

George Mason University, Fairfax Virginia

Division 1 wrestler.

Certifications

Lean 6 Sigma Green Belt |

Niagara Elevate Leadership Course |