



David Blenkharn

Principal Risk Engineer

Bachelor of Engineering (Mechanical) - Curtin University
Master of Business Administration (MBA) - Curtin University

David is a Mechanical Engineer with over 27 years' experience in the Resources and Mining Industry across Maintenance, Reliability, Engineering and Project Management.

After graduating in 1991 from Curtin University in Perth, Western Australia, David started his career with BHP Iron Ore on their Graduate Engineering program initially based at Newman where a broad range of experience and learning opportunity was provided. He then transferred to Port Hedland to join the operations team on the Nelson Point Development Project which provided David a strong introduction into project management and commissioning. This included a 12-month secondment as a Production Foreman providing the foundations in building people management skills whilst working under challenging conditions.

In 1995, David was invited to join the operations team on BHP's Hot Briquetted Iron Project initially based in Linz, Austria which lead to David project managing over \$60M in contracts and building his business acumen and commercial skills from working overseas and overseeing the design work of multiple companies from different countries and cultural backgrounds. During this time, David gained significant experience in preparing and reviewing equipment specifications, completing design, operability and maintainability reviews, including access and emergency egress studies, and participating in extensive and detailed HAZOP studies to understand all the operational risks associated with a new and highly hazardous process. David saw this project through to successful commissioning and hand-over to operations over a 5-year period.

Late in 1999, David joined Alcoa initially at their Kwinana Refinery as a Senior Mechanical Engineer, before moving into his first management role at the Portland Aluminium Smelter becoming their first Engineering and Maintenance Manager. David was able to successfully transfer his skills gained with BHP across to Alcoa which lead to a pivotal transition point in his career by moving into the area of Maintenance and Reliability. In 2003, David was sent to Quebec, Canada for the launch of an Alcoa Global Reliability Excellence Initiative and lead the implementation of this program at the Portland Smelter, before making a seamless transition to the Point Henry Smelter as Engineering Manager and to continue supporting this implementation.

From the success and insights gained from the deployment of the Reliability Excellence program within the Smelters, in 2009 David then transferred to Alcoa's Wagerup Refinery as Maintenance and Reliability Engineering Manager where over the next 6 years he held a significant and influential leadership role both within his own location, but also across all



of Alcoa's Western Australian Operations defining and deploying excellence in the fields of Maintenance Management, Reliability Engineering, and Materials (Inventory) Management.

Throughout the 13 years in management positions with Alcoa at Portland, Point Henry, and then Wagerup, David was also responsible for hosting the annual Machinery Breakdown and Fire Insurance site visits and then overseeing the closing of recommendations and actions from these visits at his own location.

The success of the Alcoa WA Operations Reliability Excellence program lead to David being selected in 2015 to join Alcoa's Global Primary Products Maintenance, Reliability and Capital Centre of Excellence as the Director for the Reliability Strategies Group. This was a global leadership position tasked with extending and supporting Alcoa's Reliability Excellence initiative across 24 locations worldwide. A major corporate restructure within Alcoa lead to this group being disbanded in 2016, but not before significant inroads had been made in establishing core operating standards and best practices in the areas of Maintenance and Reliability, and with extensive deployment support provided to the Ma'aden-Alcoa joint venture in Saudi Arabia.

In 2016, David joined MMG Limited, based in Melbourne as the Manager for Maintenance Excellence within the Group Office. David oversaw MMG's Maintenance Systems and Processes across its operations in Australia, Laos, the DRC, and Peru. This also included providing Group Office oversight and participation in the annual Insurance visits across all MMG's locations. Together with the Group Manager for Asset Management, David developed an Asset Management Standard and was the primary architect for a comprehensive assessment program which was guided heavily by the principles of ISO55001 Asset Management. The Asset Management assessment program brought together the strong synergies between operational excellence in maintenance and engineering to help manage the material risks associated with machinery breakdown and fire, providing the locations with a clear road map towards Asset Management Excellence.

A side benefit of the roles David has held has been the chance to visit over 35 operations and 27 countries through both work and personal travel. David gets great pleasure from being able to share and pass on his experience and passion for maintenance and reliability, often derived from seeing first hand failure events and learning how to prevent re-occurrence.

David and his wife live in Melbourne, Australia, and in his spare time David is obsessed with Land Rovers, following Motor Sport, and dreaming of his next road trip - interests which are all mutually exclusive to the interests of his wife.