GAURAV KAPOOR

Plant Head — Food & Agro-Processing Manufacturing (Peanut Butter, Cereals & Oats, RTE Snacks)

Himmatnagar, Gujarat | +91 89181 72721 | +91 70077 26254 | gauravfoodtech37@gmail.com | linkedin.com/in/gaurav-k-58241a99

Notice Period: 15 days

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Plant Head with 20 years of experience across food and agro-processing manufacturing, currently leading end-to-end operations for a 7-plant, multi-line network producing Peanut Butter, Oats, Muesli, and Rice Cakes for Das Superfoods (Pintola). Track record spans Factory Operations, Food Safety & Quality (FSSAI, FSSC 22000, ISO 22000, BRCGS, HACCP), Engineering & Maintenance, Supply Chain, and Organic Export Compliance (NPOP/NOP/EU/USDA). Skilled at building KPI-driven, second-line leadership across cross-functional teams and converting person-dependent operations into standardized, audit-ready manufacturing systems.

CORE COMPETENCIES

Operations & Manufacturing: Strategic Production Planning, Multi-Plant / Multi-Line / Multi-Shift Operations, OEE & Process Improvement, Lean Manufacturing, TPM, 5S, Kaizen, SMED, Material & Manpower Planning

Quality, Food Safety & Compliance: FSMS, GMP, GHP & Sanitation, HACCP / ISO 22000 / FSSC 22000 / BRCGS / AIB, Organic Certification (NPOP / NOP / EU / USDA), Traceability & Mass Balance, Factory Licensing & Pollution Control

Supply Chain & Procurement: Food Supply Chain Management, Procurement & Vendor Management, 3P / Contract Manufacturing Operations, International Organic Exports & Export Readiness

Leadership & Business: KRA / KPI Implementation, Business & Strategy Planning, Sustainability & Environmental Stewardship, Cross-Functional Team Leadership & Succession Planning

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Das Superfoods Pvt. Ltd. (Pintola) — Plant Head

Himmatnagar, Gujarat | January 2026 – Present

- Lead end-to-end operations — Production, Quality, Food Safety, Engineering, Maintenance, Supply Chain, Warehouse, Stores, Planning, Dispatch, and Manpower — across a 7-plant, multi-product, multi-line, multi-shift network producing Peanut Butter, Chocolate Oats, Dark Chocolate Muesli, Fruits & Nuts Oats/Muesli, Masala Oats, and Rice Cakes.
- Develop production plans and capacity-utilization strategies aligned to sales demand, inventory needs, and growth targets; own plant-wide OEE, productivity, yield, and loss-management systems to raise equipment utilization and cut downtime, rejection, and wastage.
- Direct complete Peanut Butter manufacturing — raw-material receipt, cleaning, sorting, roasting, cooling, skin removal, grinding, refining, blending, recipe control, and automated packaging — with strong focus on aflatoxin, Salmonella, and allergen control.
- Oversee Oats, Muesli, and Rice Cake production — batch preparation, weighing, blending, seasoning/coating, moisture control, metal detection, packaging, coding, check weighing, palletization, and finished-goods transfer.
- Drive food safety and regulatory compliance through GMP, GHP, HACCP, CCP, OPRP, PRP, allergen management, sanitation, pest control, traceability, mock recall, and CAPA; maintain continuous audit readiness for FSSAI, ISO 22000, FSSC 22000, BRCGS, and customer/retailer audits.
- Lead Engineering & Maintenance — preventive/predictive maintenance, breakdown analysis, RCA, MTBF/MTTR, critical-spares management, equipment reliability, utilities, and maintenance-cost optimization.
- Optimize automated PFS and packaging lines — machine-speed improvement, changeover reduction, weight-control systems, packaging-material optimization, metal detection, check weighing, and nitrogen flushing — to lift line efficiency.
- Apply Lean Manufacturing, TPM, 5S, Kaizen, SMED, visual management, and loss-tree analysis to remove operational losses; control conversion costs through material-yield, process-loss, packaging-wastage, labour-productivity, energy, and overhead management.
- Lead cross-functional teams across Production, QA/QC, Engineering, Maintenance, Stores, Warehouse, Planning, Procurement, Dispatch, HR, and Finance, with plant-wide KPIs, daily performance reviews, and structured second-line leadership development.

RK Ind Export Pro Ltd (Farm Organics) — General Manager – Operations

Jodhpur, Rajasthan | August 2021 – December 2025

- Led production planning in coordination with Procurement, Certifications, Inventory, Quality, Logistics, Supply Chain, and Finance, supporting an Internal Control System (ICS) for small farmers producing organic agro-commodities, herbs, grains, and aromatic plants.
- Maintained organic production records (farm maps, field history, input records, harvest estimates, mass balance) for grower groups certified under NPOP/NOP/EU; managed the full farm-to-certification lifecycle — harvesting, processing, sales contracts, Transaction Certificates, and shipment documentation.
- Managed procurement from evaluated farmers, FPOs, processors, and aggregators; built long-term farmer-group relationships and ensured lot-wise farm-to-warehouse traceability, quality specifications, and pre-shipment testing for pesticide residues, heavy metals, and aflatoxin.
- Coordinated logistics, warehousing, and inventory from farm gate to processing units, ensuring packaging, labelling, lot coding, weight checks, and FIFO/FEFO discipline.
- Liaised with government and regulatory bodies for manufacturing licences, Pollution Control Board approvals, and Spice Board/Ayurveda licences; maintained FSMS, HACCP, ISO 22000, AIB, and ISO 14001 compliance.
- Optimized procurement cost and traceability systems, reduced wastage/rejections, and worked with vendors to keep capex projects on time and on budget.

Alisha Foods Pvt Ltd — Deputy General Manager – Operations
Anand, Gujarat | August 2018 – August 2021

- Led factory operations across Production, Quality, Maintenance, and Food Supply Chain Management for extruded snacks, nankeens', and bakery products under the TipTop, 20 Paisa, Villain's, and School-Time brands.
- Managed manpower and monitored raw-material efficiency and operational performance; implemented FSMS, HACCP, ISO 22000, AIB, and ISO 14001 across daily operations.
- Managed customer service and vendor engagement while supporting business development, productivity improvement, and sustainability objectives.

Dharampal Premchand Private Limited — Regional Operations Head
Noida, Uttar Pradesh | July 2017 – August 2018

- Partnered with departmental heads on production and demand planning; managed the contract-manufacturing (3P) network and reviewed manufacturing strategy and partnerships across India.
- Evaluated and audited vendors on capacity, credentials, financial capability, quality, flexibility, and compliance; maintained dispatch communication and inventory visibility.

Chews Happiness LLC — General Manager – Operations & New Product R&D Program Director
Paro, Bhutan | January 2013 – July 2017

- Led plant operations spanning production, new-product development, and R&D — conducting bench-top/pilot trials under GMP, developing SOPs, and training and mentoring maintenance and operations staff.
- Ran process trials to optimize existing products and support NPD across pet-food, organic red-rice, animal feed, yak-milk cheese, and frozen/value-added poultry lines; planned production, man-hour estimates, and process budgets.

Vision Farms Limited — Manager – Factory Operations & Quality Head
Jaipur, Rajasthan | January 2007 – January 2013

- Designed organic farming and soil-health systems (crop rotation, composting, bio fertilizers, integrated pest management) and oversaw post-harvest sorting, grading, and processing for flours, flakes, oils, and packaged goods.
- Managed compliance with NPOP, USDA Organic, EU Organic, JAS, HACCP, BRC, FSSAI, ISO 22000, Fair Trade, and Global G.A.P.; developed export strategies for Africa, EU, US, and Middle East markets.

INDUSTRY & PRODUCT EXPOSURE

Peanut Butter, Chocolate Oats, Dark Chocolate Muesli, Fruits & Nuts Oats/Muesli, Masala Oats, and Rice Cakes. Organic spices (cumin seeds, whole red chilli, turmeric powder) and Ayurveda powders (Ashwagandha, Tulsi, Neem, Giloy). Organic and conventional rice, cereals, pulses, vegetable oils, millet flour, barley, wheat, quinoa, ragi, amaranth, corn, multigrain, peanut, buckwheat, and maize. Herbs, nutraceuticals, condiments, and seasonings; extruded snacks, nankeens', and bakery products. Fruits and vegetables processing, beverages, Roasted makhana snacks, organic agro-processing and spices, pet-food snacks/formulations, animal feed, yak-milk cheese, and frozen/value-added poultry.

EQUIPMENT & MANUFACTURING EXPOSURE

PFS Machine, VFS Machine, Peanut Butter Manufacturing Line, Cereals Manufacturing Line, Rice Cake Manufacturing Line, Spices Processing Lines, Authentic Machines, American Extrusion, Pawn Extrusion, lined-carton packing, Favourite Technologies, Buhler Sorter, roaster technologies, and Pace Packaging.

CERTIFICATIONS & COMPLIANCE EXPOSURE

BRCGS/BRC, Halal, USDA Organic, EU Organic, SEDEX, BioCert/EcoCert/GreenCert, NPOP, Jivik Bharat, Spice Board India, APEDA, Star Kosher, HACCP, FSSAI, ISO 22000, AIB, ISO 14001, Fair Trade, GlobalG.A.P., and JAS.

EDUCATION

- M.Tech – Food Technology (Food Supply Chain Management), SHUATS, Prayagraj — 2010
- B.Tech – Food Technology (Process & Food Engineering), SHUATS, Prayagraj — 2008
- Higher Secondary – Agriculture, U.P. Board, Prayagraj — 2004
- ICSE, SJC, Prayagraj — 2002

COURSES & PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

- SAP PP — September 2024
- C++ Programming, NIIT, New Delhi — July 2016
- Microsoft Office 2007 (MS Excel), NIIT, New Delhi — February 2010

LANGUAGES

English | Hindi | Bengali