

PROFILE

45+ years' experience helping organisations improve productivity, competitiveness, operational performance and sustainable growth.

Senior industrial career with 3M, Nissan/Toyota supply-chain operations, DS Smith and Rexam, followed by many years as an independent consultant to SMEs and larger organisations.

KEY STRENGTHS

- Manufacturing strategy & operational improvement
- Lean & World-Class Manufacturing
- Industry 4.0 & digital manufacturing
- Business diagnostics & transformation
- Productivity & competitiveness improvement
- Strategic planning & implementation
- Management development, training & mentoring

SECTOR EXPERIENCE

Automotive, medical supplies, packaging, process industries, printing, food, electronics, and the public/voluntary sector.

QUALIFICATIONS

Ph.D., Synthetic Organic Chemistry

University of Wales · 1978–1981

Thesis: "Synthetic and Conformational Studies on Benzannelated Mesocycles"

Honours Degree, Chemistry

University of Wales · 1975–1978

M.B.A.

Open University Business School · 1986–1990

F.R.S.C. · C.Chem.

CONTACT

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WHAT I CAN OFFER

An experienced independent adviser providing senior-level manufacturing and business expertise on a **part-time, project or advisory basis**.

Strategic Adviser

Independent advice on manufacturing strategy, operational performance, competitiveness and business improvement.

Manufacturing & Lean Adviser

Practical support identifying waste, improving processes, increasing productivity and embedding continuous improvement.

Industry 4.0 Adviser

Helping manufacturers identify and implement appropriate digital technologies that deliver measurable business benefits.

Business Mentor / Critical Friend

An experienced independent perspective for business owners and management teams facing growth, operational or strategic challenges.

Training & Development

Practical training and development in manufacturing, quality, project management, Lean and business improvement.

SELECTED ACHIEVEMENTS BEFORE ESTABLISHING CONSULTANCY

- Led manufacturing strategy development across a multinational group, coordinating improvement programmes across multiple sites.
- Managed a new greenfield medical-supplies facility recognised as one of the most advanced facilities of its type in the world.
- Headed a Technical Solutions Group for 3M, providing technical and operational solutions.
- Led development of a pioneering bulk-delivery system for automotive sealing products, contributing to a Toyota Supplier of the Year Award (1994/95).
- Developed innovative manufacturing solutions, including an alternative to masking tape for automotive repair and a fully integrated plant for re-pulpable splicing tape.
- Contributed to the team producing the first VHS videocassette made in Europe.

CONSULTANCY & CAREER EXPERIENCE

Independent Management Consultant : Dr. John R. Thomas Associates.

Advised hundreds of SMEs and larger organisations across a wide range of sectors, on an international basis providing:

Diagnosis → Strategy → Implementation → Training → Sustainable Improvement

University of Cambridge — Institute for Manufacturing *Industrial Fellow / Education & Consultancy Services · 10 years*

- Developed innovative services to support SMEs.
- Led the IfM portfolio for Wales and the West Midlands.
- Delivered diagnostic and consultancy services to businesses.
- Worked closely with government agencies on business support and improvement.

UWTSD — Smart Digital Accelerator *Industry Adviser*

Advised Welsh manufacturers on the identification and adoption of appropriate Industry 4.0 technologies to improve their bottom line.

The Open University *Part-time Lecturer · 1991–2005*

15 years teaching Master's-level courses in Manufacturing, Quality and Project Management, including contributing to course development and authorship.

Additional teaching and advisory experience with **Swansea University (15 years), Cardiff Business School** and **University of Wales Trinity Saint David**.

Available for part-time, project or advisory assignments · references and further details on request.