

DAVIDE LEONARDI

Senior Product Manager | Industrial Automation & Manufacturing Technology

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Senior PM with 5+ years leading complex automation, capital, and digital transformation programs across Food & Beverage, Pharma, Aerospace, and Oil & Gas. Expert in aseptic filling automation, MES/SCADA, and Industry 4.0. Track record of aligning cross-functional engineering and business stakeholders to deliver measurable enterprise outcomes. M.Sc. Mechanical Engineering (110/110 cum laude) + Executive Master's in PM from Politecnico di Milano.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Project Manager — Service | Sidel • Sept 2025 – Present • Atlanta, GA

- Own full project lifecycle for aseptic bottling line improvement programs — from technical assessment and scope definition through execution and customer sign-off.
- Build and defend commercial proposals and quotations, translating complex technical requirements into accurate cost models for global enterprise accounts.
- Act as single point of contact for key clients, coordinating field specialists and internal Business Units to deliver tailored automation solutions on time.

Project Manager — Manufacturing Strategy & Automation | GEA Group • Sept 2023 – Aug 2025 • Parma, Italy (Düsseldorf HQ)

- Managed end-to-end capital and automation programs across F&B, Pharma, and Farm verticals — owning scope, budget, schedule, and external engineering partners from concept through plant startup.
- Led multi-site production transfer and consolidation initiatives, enabling technology relocation across global facilities while maintaining output continuity.
- Defined technical strategies for complex manufacturing challenges, balancing engineering trade-offs and risk across cross-functional international teams.
- Championed Industry 4.0 and automation technology adoption, translating emerging trends into concrete operational improvements with measurable ROI.

Senior Product Engineer · promoted from Manufacturing & Product Engineer | Lincotek • Jun 2020 – Sept 2023 • Parma, Italy

- Primary technical interface for Aerospace and Oil & Gas OEM customers — managed qualification programs, weekly performance reviews, and customer escalations.
- Led product development from design to production release; drove root cause analysis and corrective actions (NCR, CAR, SCAR) across multiple product lines. SAP Key User for process and quality data.
- Promoted to Senior level within 15 months; coordinated additive manufacturing pilot projects integrating emerging technology on the shop floor.

R&D and Design Engineer | Bardiani Valvole • Apr 2019 – Apr 2020 • Parma, Italy

- Designed FDA- and EHEDG-compliant sanitary valves for F&B and Pharma clients, managing full development cycle from spec to validation.

R&D Engineer Intern | CFT Group • Oct 2018 – Feb 2019 • Parma, Italy

- Delivered standardization framework for rotating unions, reducing component selection complexity and enabling faster procurement across product lines.

EDUCATION

Executive Master's in Project Management | Politecnico di Milano — GSOM • Nov 2024 – May 2025

M.Sc. Mechanical Engineering (110/110 Cum Laude) | Università degli Studi di Parma • 2016–2019 • Exchange: MADI Moscow (2018)

B.Sc. Mechanical Engineering (97/110) | Università degli Studi di Parma • 2012–2016

SKILLS & TECHNOLOGIES

PM & Strategy: Product roadmaps, stakeholder alignment, scope/budget/schedule, risk management, VOC, Agile/Scrum

Industrial Domains: Aseptic filling & bottling, MES/SCADA, IIoT, Industry 4.0, PLM/PDM, ERP (SAP), additive manufacturing, FDA, EHEDG, AS9100

Technical Tools: Python, MATLAB, VBA, SolidWorks, Inventor, AutoCAD, Minitab, Microsoft 365 (Excel advanced)

Languages: English (Fluent) • Italian (Native) • French (Beginner) • Russian (Beginner)

ADDITIONAL

Comenius Europe Program (2010–2012): Two-year international collaboration with student teams from Turkey, Spain, Germany, and Romania. Final project exhibited at the European Parliament in Strasbourg, France.

Interests: Trekking • Soccer • Beach Volleyball • Motorcycling • Cooking