



# Abhikalp Kaushik

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## Summary

Purpose-driven engineer turned entrepreneur with hands-on experience in operations, sustainability, and team leadership. Recognized for problem-solving excellence, strategic thinking, and innovative execution across diverse industries. Proven ability to lead cross-functional teams, optimize systems, and deliver measurable impact.

## Professional Experience

### Founder | Earth-O-Wise | New Delhi, India

Aug 2021 – Mar 2025

- Spearheading a 10-member team to develop eco-friendly boards from rice stubble, showcasing strong leadership and end-to-end project execution.
- Engineered an innovative, eco-friendly board at Earth-O-Wise using rice stubble and a custom-synthesized resin, pioneering a sustainable alternative to MDF and particle boards.
- Optimized resin-to-straw ratio by 40%, resulting in a 36% reduction in overall production costs.
- Negotiated a strategic partnership with a manufacturer to allocate assembly line capacity for prototype development on a non-profit basis.
- Collaborated with over 10 particleboard manufacturers across states to streamline and finalize manufacturing workflows.
- Engaged with farmers across three states to understand the stubble-burning crisis and mobilized them to supply rice stubble for sustainable board production.
- Influenced 15 contract workers at a third-party manufacturing unit to adopt Personal Protective Equipment, promoting a culture of safety and compliance.
- Liaised with senior government officials to secure necessary approvals and operational licenses.
- Advanced to the third stage of Shark Tank India by clearing two highly competitive evaluation rounds.
- Built and launched the company's official website, enhancing digital presence and stakeholder communication.

### Co-Founder | shapeNcurve | Kota, India

Jun 2018 – Jul 2021

- Forged strategic partnerships with 50+ fitness centers across 3 major cities, expanding the platform's reach and service offerings.
- Negotiated and secured partnership agreements that aligned with business objectives and delivered value to both the company and fitness center partners.
- Designed and developed the website with an intuitive UI/UX, ensuring a smooth experience for users and streamlined onboarding for gym partners.
- Steered the venture through COVID-19 disruptions by making decisive calls to wind down operations responsibly, minimizing impact on stakeholders and preserving relationships.

### Marketing Administrator | New Zealand Business Association (NZBA) | Auckland, New Zealand

Jul 2017 – Feb 2018

- Worked directly under the Association President of NZBA, contributing to high-impact community engagement initiatives.
- Onboarded 30+ immigrant-led businesses within three months through proactive field outreach, earning commendation from the Association President.
- Boosted website traffic by 2x in five months by strategically managing Google AdWords campaigns, enhancing the association's digital visibility.
- Strengthened brand presence and audience engagement through targeted social media campaigns, increasing community outreach and awareness.

### Sr Engineer | Cairn (Oil & Gas) | Barmer, India

Apr 2017 – Jul 2017

- Led a team of 30 professionals to ensure continuous and efficient production operations.
- Managed goal-setting, performance, and career development of my team.
- Trained 50+ employees and contract workers on HSE fundamentals, H<sub>2</sub>S hazard awareness, and safe operating practices, strengthening the site's safety culture.
- Recognized with Pat On Back award for boosting equipment uptime by 15% by streamlining preventive maintenance schedules.
- Utilized SAP's Planning and Maintenance modules to streamline plant operations and improve maintenance efficiency.

### Engineer | Cairn (Oil & Gas) | Barmer, India

Jun 2013 – Apr 2017

- Led a 21-member team to ensure uninterrupted operations in a critical production zone within the facility.
- Awarded the CEO's Going the Extra Mile (GEM) honor, becoming the youngest recipient, for eliminating crude oil leakage by redesigning and fabricating floating oil skimmer bases.
- Chosen as the sole representative from the operations team to attend the Factory Acceptance Test of two mission-critical pumps (~\$1M) at GE, Italy.
- Received the Pat On Back award for diagnosing and resolving recurring booster pump failures through advanced process parameter analysis, saving \$20,000.

- Awarded the Pat On Back for preventing shaft damage of a critical pump.
- Achieved zero Lost Time Injury Frequency Rate (LTIFR) by leading safety initiatives as the Maintenance Team’s designated Safety Leader.
- Improved mechanical system reliability by 10% through structured root cause analysis and implementation of preventive measures.
- Delivered 80% time savings in strainer cleaning of critical pumps by proposing and executing an innovative maintenance solution.

## Education

- B.Tech. (Mechanical Engineering) – Malaviya National Institute of Technology (NIT Jaipur) | India 2009 – 2013

## Accomplishments

- Featured in the newspaper, Rajasthan Patrika, for an innovative B.Tech project, earning public recognition for academic excellence.

## Certifications

- Lean Six Sigma Green Belt by KPMG.
- Excel Skills for Business: Advanced by Macquarie University.
- Product Management Essentials from the University of Maryland.
- System 1 Fundamentals by GE.
- Machinery Diagnostics by GE.
- Oil and Gas Fundamentals by Schlumberger.

## Extra-Curriculars

- **Organizer:** Headed the Collateral and Materials Team to organize ROBOCON-22, Asia-Pacific Robot Contest.
- **Award:** Honorable Mention in the International Photography Award 2017 and 2024, organized by the Lucie Foundation.
- **Training:** Drilling Awareness by ONGC.