

# AZMAT H. SIDDIQI

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## ACCOMPLISHED QUALITY LEADER

CATALYZE COALITIONS | METRICS FOCUS | MOTIVATIONAL | CREATIVE AND INNOVATIVE

- Transformational leader, a result-focused professional with demonstrated success in overseeing the entire life cycle of quality management responsibilities as well as overall risk mitigation.
- Implementation of a quality-centric culture by installing QMS tools, methods and practices enterprise-wide.
- Straight-forward and decisive with the wit, intelligence and experience to recognize opportunities for improvement, eliminate deficiencies and build strong consensus for deploying corrective action and solutions.
- Highly skilled in readiness of systems with an emphasis on management of the quality and reliability requirements through the development and maturation of the product life cycle.

*"Azmat has been a relentless champion for quality, reliability and technical excellence during his tenure at First Solar, and we are grateful for his substantial contributions."*

**Tymen de Jong**  
Chief Operations Officer  
First Solar Inc.

## CORE COMPETENCIES

- Effective and Efficient Quality Practice Leadership
- Expertise in embedding Quality Tools and Methods
- Decomposes Complex Issues into Manageable Pieces
- Introduces Standards, Metrics, Best Practices and BKM
- Directs Risk Identification, Management & Mitigation
- Captures gains Across all Performance Metrics

## CAREER NARRATIVE

### APPLIED MATERIAL, INC., SANTA CLARA, CA

#### 2017 TO PRESENT: CORPORATE DIRECTOR GLOBAL QUALITY & RELIABILITY

Deploying an enterprise-wide Design for Reliability (DfR) practice. Ensuring that fundamental quality and reliability principles are integrated in the global product development and continuous improvement efforts in the semiconductor wafer-fab equipment space. Led programs to establish reliability testing and validation labs in both USA and low-cost regions.

Implementing closed loop corrective action validation in a timely and cost-effective manner to Bus (business units) and Contact Manufacturing Services. Building and strengthening relationships with clients, venture capitalists, industry experts, and stakeholders.

### FIRST SOLAR INC., SAN FRANCISCO, CA

#### 2012 TO 2017: SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT OF QUALITY & RELIABILITY

Effectively managed operations at one of the largest solar power company in the world, with accountability for technical readiness, continuous improvement, quality and reliability, supplier development and capacity improvement, and field validation for modules, and services. Advanced from an initial role as Senior Vice President of Quality & Reliability to a position of expanded scope and responsibility, championing end-to-end process improvement across the value chain. With focus on Manufacturing Operations.

- Built the Global Quality and Reliability Excellence group from the ground up, with a mandate to secure significant gains across Product Performance, Supplier Development, and Customer Satisfaction.
- Credited with cultivating an enterprise-wide culture focused on achieving continuous improvement and yield enhancement in manufacturing operations. Deployed use of performance score-cards, dash boards, metrics and KPIs enterprise-wide.
- Delivered over \$135MM in savings through the implementation of a quality management system (QMS) program impacting the \$750MM supply chain.
- Recover about \$150MM in operating expenses by initiating a series of strategic initiatives both "bottoms-up" and "top down".
- Responsible for introducing a *Levelized Benefit of Quality (COPQ)* metric that eliminated \$100M in annual expenses.
- Improved bankability through the definition of the industry's first photovoltaic power plant certification. Achieved gains in risk mitigation by a process that empowered the quantification and mitigation of performance risks in new and existing PV products.
- Installed design practice and analyses necessary to validate the requirements, maintain control of the defined baseline.
- Continually tracked compliance of the design to the requirements, through TRL (technology readiness levels) during the Design Development Test and V&V Evaluation.

**AMONIX INC., SEAL BEACH, CA****2011 TO 2012: VICE PRESIDENT QUALITY, RELIABILITY AND MANUFACTURING ENGINEERING**

Recruited to design and deploy a quality, reliability, and regulatory compliance practice for this developer of solar power systems, including an internal product reliability capability featuring failure analysis and field issue closure. Debuted a highly effective technology readiness effort with in-house components and with NREL for field validation and verification (V&V) testing.

- Credited with achieving and sustaining compliance with a complex landscape of regulatory requirements and directives from a broad array of organizations. Delivered solid results and record-setting performance.

**NORTHROP GRUMMAN CORPORATION, WOODLAND HILLS, CA****2007 TO 2011: DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING, NAVIGATION SYSTEMS DIVISION**

Assumed a leadership role directing classified and highly sensitive national defense contracts, with authority over directorates of Global Positioning, Inertial Navigation, and Guidance Division. Coordinated and led programs and strategies designed to restore contracts to expected timelines, achieving all project milestones and deliverables on-time and within budget. Held "2-Star Secret" and Compartmentalized Clearances for THAAD.

- Conducted evaluations and presented analysis and findings at periodic operational reviews. Deployed CONOPs (concept of operations) for GPS/GNSS Sensors, Fiber Optic Gros, LiDAR, and classified Inertial Systems
- Directed development of a complex systems engineering life cycle end-to-end ranging from requirements development, functional design, hardware integration, and requirement verification that ultimately lead to validation and certification.
- Maintained direct accountability for the identification and mitigation of all risks with the potential to impact the forward progress of all initiatives; provided support to ITAR, NAR and DCMA audits and developed periodic test status reviews
- Directly responsible for risk identification and mitigation of activities relative to total mission quality and reliability assurance

**NANOMETRICS INC., MILPITAS, CA****2005 TO 2007: VICE PRESIDENT OF MANUFACTURING ENGINEERING, QUALITY & RELIABILITY**

Recognized for implementing a global quality management system and formal product development process at this provider of advanced, high-performance process control metrology and inspection systems. Established supply chain qualification and cost reduction initiatives that secured gains in efficiency, productivity, and operational performance.

- Articulated a New Product Introduction Process that ensured consistency across all phases of the product development at Nano.
- Harmonized Supplier Quality tools, methods and practices to the essence of APQP and PPAP standards across all locations.

**APPLIED MATERIALS, INC., SANTA CLARA, CA****1994 TO 2005: SENIOR DIRECTOR QUALITY & RELIABILITY**

Served as company's first product quality engineering director. Designed and staffed end-to-end corp. reliability eng. group. System. Deployed DfX (Design for Excellence) and DfR (design for reliability) processes across divisions globally. Installed a company-wide phase-gate Product Development Process (PDP). Defined and allocated test, verification & validation (V&V) requirements for the next generation tool development.

Ensured on-time delivery of tools by teaming with manufacturing to install rapid assembly methods and in-situ testing.

**Early Career:**

*Manager of Quality, Sierra Semiconductor, San Jose, CA*

*Quality Assurance Engineer, Hewlett Packard, Santa Clara, CA*

**EDUCATION & PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS**

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA, GAINESVILLE: **Master of Science in Industrial and Systems Engineering**

NED ENG. & TECH. UNIVERSITY, KARACHI, PAKISTAN: **Bachelor in Mechanical Engineering**

**Postgraduate Work in Laser Engineering and Digital Simulation at Stanford University**

**Certifications: Principles of Lean Operations** – Venture Outsource

**Six Sigma** Champion Belt – Excel Partnership

**ASQ** Instructor: CQE, SQA, QA Audit, and Quality Management Systems (QMS)