

Titus Pratt

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SUMMARY

Manufacturing Engineering Manager with 14 years of progressive aerospace and precision manufacturing experience, including more than 8 years leading engineering teams, automation programs, capital projects, and **Continuous Improvement** portfolios. Engineering graduate with hands on expertise across metal cutting, grinding, machining, lapping, honing, assembly, process routing, and **new product introduction**. Leads cross functional work with Manufacturing, Quality, Procurement, Product Development, and Engineering. Applies Lean manufacturing, 6S, DMAIC, **root cause analysis**, **ERP manufacturing functions**, change management, and disciplined project governance to improve throughput, lead time, scrap, cost, and process capability. Provides manufacturing guidance during design reviews and owns AS9100 process readiness, risk management, audit support, team development, and practical problem solving in demanding aerospace production environments.

EXPERIENCE

Manufacturing Engineering Manager

February 2022 - Present

Orion Flight Components

Rockford, IL

Leads **manufacturing engineering** for precision aerospace components across machining, grinding, lapping, honing, assembly, automation, capital deployment, new product introduction, and AS9100 process readiness. Sets technical priorities, develops engineers, manages project portfolios, and connects engineering decisions with cost, throughput, lead time, scrap, compliance, and production continuity.

- Led aerospace engineering priorities across machining, grinding, lapping, honing, assembly, and product introduction.
- Built Continuous Improvement and capital roadmaps linking projects with cost, **throughput**, lead time, and scrap.
- Directed automation programs through justification, supplier selection, procurement, **commissioning**, and production handoff.
- Established engineering metrics and review cadence, applying DMAIC and **root cause analysis** to performance gaps.
- Owned AS9100 readiness for process changes, equipment, software, product realization, planning, and **risk management**.
- Resolved routing, DMR, manufacturability, equipment, and design change issues with **cross functional** partners.

Senior Manufacturing Engineer

June 2019 - January 2022

Summit Aerospace Machining

Aurora, IL

Led manufacturing engineering for aerospace bearing and actuator components, translating drawings and quality requirements into capable routings, tooling strategies, inspection points, production methods, capital projects, and launch plans. Mentored engineers and technicians while coordinating design, operations, quality, and supplier relationships around production recovery and new product delivery.

- Translated aerospace drawings into capable routings, tooling strategies, inspection points, and production methods.
- Delivered CNC **machining** and material handling projects through requirements, supplier review, installation, and qualification.
- Applied Lean, 6S, **DMAIC**, and error proofing to chronic **scrap** and flow constraints.
- Supported product launches with **manufacturability** reviews, fixture planning, risk identification, and production coordination.
- Corrected ERP routings and **manufacturing** data affecting material movement, scheduling, costing, and shop execution.
- Mentored engineers and technicians through structured **problem solving**, process changes, and project planning.

Manufacturing Engineering Supervisor

April 2016 - May 2019

Prairie Precision Systems

Elgin, IL

Supervised **manufacturing engineering** support for precision metal components while balancing daily production needs with process development, equipment upgrades, project tracking, and team capability. Coordinated automated inspection and machining support equipment from requirements through factory acceptance, installation, operator preparation, and controlled production release.

- Supervised engineers supporting metal component production, process development, equipment upgrades, and improvement projects.
- Introduced project tracking for tooling, machining, **grinding**, and **assembly** improvements with visible owners and risks.
- Commissioned automated inspection and machining equipment through acceptance, installation, training, and production release.
- Facilitated defect investigations and equipment recovery using structured **problem solving** and verified corrective actions.
- Controlled process changes, routing updates, and design revisions with **quality** and **engineering** partners.
- Developed engineers and technicians through technical reviews, coaching, and ownership assignments.

Manufacturing Engineer

August 2013 - March 2016

Midwest Motion Technologies

Schaumburg, IL

Supported precision mechanical component production across metal cutting, CNC machining, grinding, and assembly. Maintained routings, work instructions, tooling requirements, ERP data, and process documentation while developing fixtures, supporting equipment purchases, investigating defects, and coordinating trials with production and quality teams.

- Supported **metal cutting**, CNC machining, grinding, and assembly for precision mechanical components.
- Investigated production problems with measurement data, operator input, and root cause methods.
- Designed and qualified fixtures with machinists, quality technicians, and production supervisors.

- Documented equipment needs, compared technical proposals, coordinated installation, and validated capability after commissioning.
- Applied **Lean manufacturing** and **6S** to cell organization, material flow, setup preparation, and visual controls.
- Used ERP functions and Excel to review routings, material requirements, production data, and improvement metrics.

Manufacturing Engineer

July 2012 - July 2013

Great Lakes Engineered Products

Peoria, IL

Supported machining and assembly operations for engineered metal products under senior engineering review. Built early experience with production routing, tooling, quality requirements, controlled documentation, ERP manufacturing data, corrective trials, fixture evaluation, and cross functional manufacturability reviews.

- Supported machining and assembly operations through routing, tooling, quality, and process documentation.
- Prepared process instructions and updated manufacturing routings under senior engineering review.
- Analyzed scrap records and shop observations, then supported corrective process trials.
- Coordinated tooling and fixture trials with production personnel and documented recommended adjustments.
- Maintained engineering records and ERP data using Excel, Word, and PowerPoint.
- Supported manufacturing, quality, and design reviews involving process changes and production risk.

PROJECTS

Aerospace Capital Portfolio 📅 2024

Small improvements compound when projects share a clear business case. Built a prioritized portfolio linking automation, tooling, equipment, throughput, lead time, scrap, and annual Continuous Improvement planning.

AS9100 Process Readiness 📅 2023

Compliance becomes practical when engineers can use it during production decisions. Organized process ownership across equipment, software, product realization, planning, risk management, and controlled process changes.

Automated Production Cells 📅 2021

Technology earns its place on a factory floor through disciplined commissioning. Coordinated requirements, supplier selection, procurement, installation, acceptance, qualification, and production handoff for automated manufacturing systems.

LEADERSHIP & AWARDS

- Lean Six Sigma Green Belt recognition, 2020
- Manufacturing engineering team leadership for aerospace production improvement, 2022
- Capital project leadership across automation and equipment commissioning, 2021

EDUCATION

Bachelor's Degree in Manufacturing Engineering

2012

Bradley University GPA: 0

Peoria, IL

***Coursework:** Manufacturing systems, machining processes, quality engineering, production planning*

CERTIFICATIONS

- Lean Six Sigma Green Belt 📅 2020
- AS9100 Process Ownership and Audit Readiness 📅 2022

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- **Manufacturing Processes:** Metal cutting, Grinding, Machining, Lapping, Honing, Assembly
- **Continuous Improvement:** Lean manufacturing, 6S, DMAIC, Error proofing
- **Quality Systems:** AS9100, Audit readiness, Process compliance
- **Root Cause Methods:** Root cause analysis, Structured problem solving, Corrective action
- **Automation Systems:** Single point automation, Large scale systems, Automated material handling
- **Capital Projects:** Business justification, Supplier selection, Commissioning
- **Production Planning:** Process routings, Production planning, Manufacturing readiness
- **Product Introduction:** New product introduction, Design reviews, Manufacturability
- **Enterprise Systems:** ERP manufacturing functions, Routing control, Production data
- **Microsoft Office:** Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, Microsoft PowerPoint
- **Risk Management:** Production risk, Change management, Process change control
- **Performance Management:** Engineering metrics, Project reviews, Portfolio planning

SKILLS

- Manufacturing Leadership
- Aerospace Manufacturing
- Capital Equipment
- Continuous Improvement
- Lean Manufacturing
- DMAIC
- Root Cause Analysis
- Manufacturing Automation
- Team Development
- Project Management
- Change Management
- New Product Introduction
- Process Routings
- AS9100
- ERP Manufacturing Functions

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Aerospace manufacturing and engineering collaboration across quality, procurement, and product development
- Lean manufacturing community participation focused on practical improvement and team capability

LANGUAGES

- English (Native)
- Spanish (Intermediate)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Work Status : Authorized to work in United States. No sponsorship required.

REFERENCES

AVAILABLE ON REQUEST