

Ryan Watrous

AI Strategist & Builder · Manufacturing Operations Leader

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SUMMARY

Operations leader with 21+ years in high-stakes manufacturing environments, now applying that judgment to AI strategy. Founded Bridgework Solutions to help \$10M+ manufacturers and contractors build AI roadmaps and train their teams to execute. Hands-on builder: ships voice agents, Python data pipelines, and production websites - not just slides.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- AI strategy & implementation (LLMs, agents, voice AI, prompt engineering)
- Lean Manufacturing - process standardization and optimization
- Operations leadership across large, multi-shift technical organizations
- Coaching & development - career, executive, and team-level
- Building and running productized businesses end-to-end

CURRENT

Founder

Bridgework Solutions · 2024 - present · Chandler, AZ

- AI strategy practice for \$10M+ manufacturers and contractors. Designed the STE framework: Strategy -> Transformation -> Education.
- Built and operate two voice AI agents on GoHighLevel: 'Ava' interviews paid-assessment clients; 'Alfred' handles inbound and books follow-up calls.
- Built the marketing site (Vercel + GHL CRM + FastPayDirect checkout) and the \$1,000 paid AI Business Assessment funnel.
- Shipped CommitRight, a \$47 college-recruiting database product backed by an 11-script Python scraping and verification pipeline (1,263 NCAA/NAIA programs).

Owner

The Boiler Operation, LLC · 2017 - present

- Acquired an existing physical-products online retailer; ramped revenue 40% YoY and held the gain at 40-50% net margin.
- Self-taught Amazon Seller Central, Shopify, WordPress, paid social, sourcing, logistics, design, and copy. Launched new SKUs into the line.

INTEL CORPORATION - CHANDLER, AZ (1997 - 2020)

Strategic Career Coach

July 2016 - June 2020

- Career-development, job-search, and interview coach for Intel employees; executive coach to senior leaders.
- Built systems and processes that scaled the practice from 150 users to effectively unlimited capacity.

Engineering Group Leader, Assembly Technology Development

Apr 2014 - June 2016

- Managed 11 Chip Attach engineers responsible for tool installation, recipe creation and management, process optimization, and 24/7 first-level response.
- Drove a standardized web-based passdown system to improve documentation and engineering response on

critical issues.

- Led creation of a 'Wiki' system with training checklists and reference material that accelerated onboarding for new engineers.

Factory Production Manager (temporary coverage)

May 2012 - Sept 2012

- Operational performance of Intel's premier multi-billion-dollar fab.
- Drove Wip Turns from 2.4 to 3.0 over the quarter; factory hit its customer commitments on the 1270 process.

Captain of the Ship (tactical shift manager)

Jan 2007 - Apr 2014

- Indirect management of 20+ engineering group leaders, 40 engineers, and 150+ technicians on shift.
- Set shift priorities, applied Lean Manufacturing and Manufacturing Sciences to drive continuous improvement and deliver world-class semiconductor results.
- Mentored group leaders, engineers, and technicians on performance, career progression, and conflict resolution.

Manufacturing Shift Manager

Feb 2005 - Dec 2006

- Managed a shift of 10 first-line Operations Managers and 200+ technicians.
- Coordinated hiring of 21 Operations Managers for Fab 22 - sourcing, interviewing, dispositioning, and offer management.

Operations Manager - Planar, Etch & Lithography

Oct 1997 - Jan 2005

- Managed 20-50 technicians per area in a high-tech fab environment.
- Tactical execution during startup of four new fab technologies.
- Managed quality output via statistical process control data and systems.

EDUCATION

Purdue University

1993 - 1997

BS, Organizational Leadership and Supervision - School of Technology. Coursework: Team Dynamics, Management, Human Resources, Leadership, Physics, Organic Chemistry, Industrial Engineering, Manufacturing Technology, Statistics.