

Barry J Gartner

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science, Mechanical Engineering – North Dakota State University, Fargo, ND, 1986

M.B.A., Strategy and Operations – University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN, 1999

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

MINNESOTA POWER – Duluth, MN

1/2013 – Present

Project Development Leader

Develop, screen, and implement projects and strategies that support short and long-term company plans. Provide analytical and technical services for energy project analysis, opportunity assessment, company generation development, and customer project support. Monitor new technology developments and industry trends. Manage projects through the development process and negotiate key project contracts.

- Project developer and project manager for the 200 MW Bison 4 Wind Project. Led negotiations for Turbine Supply Agreement and the Service and Maintenance Agreement.
- Negotiated Long Term Service Agreement for the Bison Wind Energy Center.
- Led Hydro Optimization Study to understand economics of individual hydropower facilities.
- Negotiated amendments to Power Purchase Agreements for repowering NextEra’s 100 MW Oliver County Wind Projects, providing Minnesota Power with cost savings and contract extensions.
- Led the 2016 Wind RFP and negotiations for a 250 MW Power Purchase Agreement, providing 1 million MWh annually.
- Developed innovative ownership structure and coordinated partnership discussions with Tenaska, resulting in ALLETE purchasing an ownership stake in the 250 MW Nobles 2 Wind Project.
- Technical and operations subject matter expert for obtaining tax equity financing for ALLETE’s share of the Nobles 2 Wind Project.

XCEL ENERGY – Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant – Welch, MN

9/2010 – 12/2012

Systems Engineering Supervisor, Balance of Plant

Supervised a team of seven system engineers responsible for the mechanical equipment used in power generation totaling over 1,100 MW. Duties included performing causal analysis, supporting work management, reviewing engineering products, and reinforcing safety standards. Monitored equipment performance and drove improvements in reliability and safety. Optimized equipment maintenance programs and developed life cycle management plans.

NORTHWEST AIRLINES – St. Paul, MN

5/1990 – 11/2009

Project Manager, Technical Projects

4/2009 – 11/2009

Identified and implemented cost reduction opportunities that resulted from the merger of Northwest Airlines and Delta Airlines. Focused on engine and component maintenance programs and processes. Coordinated efforts of Engineering, Production, Planning, and Supply Chain.

- Analyzed opportunity and wrote proposal for swapping life limited parts between two different gas turbine engine models, saving \$43M over five years. Led cross-functional team in developing operational procedures for implementation.

NORTHWEST AIRLINES – continued

Director Ramp Standards

9/2005 – 3/2009

Directed a team of seven managers. Controlled all ramp policies and procedures affecting 4,000 employees at 120 stations worldwide. Managed aircraft deicing, cleaning, and emergency response programs. Led initiatives to improve safety, reliability, and quality.

- Developed and implemented \$10M initiative to substantially improve aircraft interior cleaning performance, resulting in a 40% reduction in customer complaints.
- Implemented automation changes to the flight load entry process, reducing load errors by 44%.
- Created a project manager function to lead and coordinate major Ground Operations projects.

Project Engineer, Technology/Process Automation

9/2004 – 8/2005

Researched and developed technologies for luggage, aircraft, and passenger handling to improve labor productivity and customer service. Evaluated mature and emerging technologies. Performed financial and operational feasibility analysis.

- Identified opportunity, evaluated technical feasibility, and wrote business case to install automated luggage handling systems on 757 aircraft, improving labor efficiency and saving over \$5M annually.

Strategic Planning Manager, Technical Operations

1/2004 – 8/2004

Developed and implemented strategies to outsource all non-core component maintenance (\$170M annual spend). Selected by executive management for this special project.

- Created prioritization methodology to control outsourcing 7,000 aircraft components in one year.
- Developed processes to automate and streamline outsourcing transactions and related material handling. This reduced cycle time by up to two days for over 20,000 transactions annually.

Production Manager, Engine Build and Test

5/2002 – 12/2003

Directed team of 50 mechanics and inspectors. Managed the repair and overhaul of gas turbine engines to meet budget and schedule goals. Participated in engine workscoping and production planning.

- Converted under-utilized engines for use on a different aircraft type, saving \$4M in overhaul costs.
- Led lean initiatives to improve component repair cycle times and reduce inventory.

Finance Manager, Technical Projects

12/1999 – 4/2002

Senior Financial Analyst, Technical Projects

2/1999 – 11/1999

Managed a team of four financial analysts. Directed analysis of maintenance/material contracts, capital equipment, and major engineering projects. Optimized allocation, utilization, and control of resources. Generated written analysis and justification for presentation to senior management.

- Created financial model for increasing the accuracy of estimating on-going aircraft maintenance costs, which is a key factor in aircraft purchase and retirement decisions.
- Analyzed financials and wrote business case to gain approval for a cost-per-flight hour contract for transmission repair materials, saving \$20M over ten years.
- Led team that improved financial control of \$273M DC9 Structural Upgrade Program.

Project Engineer

12/1995 – 1/1999

Senior Engineer

6/1991 – 11/1995

Engineer

5/1990 – 5/1991

Created and supported engineering projects to improve the safety and reliability of 747 aircraft structure and systems. Managed engineering projects by coordinating with Production, Finance, Supply Chain, and Planning. Performed root cause analysis and implemented corrective actions, including on-going inspection programs and preventive modifications. Provided technical support to Production.

- Appointed Designated Engineering Representative (DER) with the authority to approve engineering data for the FAA.

Stress Engineer, 747 Aircraft Structures

Performed stress analysis (ultimate, fatigue, and damage tolerance) on wing structure of 747 aircraft. Developed design specifications for wing components. Developed repairs for in-service fleet. Provided technical support to Manufacturing.

- Prepared ultimate, fatigue, and damage tolerance analysis of wing structure for FAA certification of the 747-400 aircraft.
- Prepared certification analysis of wing attach structure for missile defense system on the Air Force 1 aircraft.