

Nagendra Aswatha

Assistant Professor

Faculty – Supply Chain Management and Materials Management

Rizvi Institute of Management Studies & Research

Nagendra Aswatha is a B.E.(Mechanical) from VJTI, Mumbai and M.M.S. from S.P.Jain Institute of Management & Research, Mumbai. He has 33 years of post-qualification experience all through in the Shipping, Logistics & Supply Chain function with specific focus on warehousing, transportation (domestic & international), inventory management, imports, exports, customs clearance, CFS/ICD operations and port handling services. The first 18 years was on the client's side which included reputed corporates like Kansai Nerolac Paints and Hindustan Unilever (HUL) while the last 12 years the exposure has been in the 3PL sector & Shipping Industry with organizations like DHL-Exel & Maersk Logistics (now Damco).

His recent assignments included working in the capacity of Chief Operating Officer- COO - for the Shipping and Logistics Division of Forbes & Co. Ltd – F&CL-since Feb 2010 until Jan 2014. The main business interests in F&CL were freight forwarding (ocean & air), project cargo movement, Container Freight Station, Liner Agency & Warehousing. He was instrumental in increasing the top-line of the division 3-fold (from INR 46 cr to INR 140 cr) and at the same time turned around the division from a loss-making one to a profitable venture during this period of 4 years.

He was last working in the capacity of Associate Director in ThinkLink Supply Chain Services from Feb 2014 to August 2015, which is mainly in the area of Consulting, Training & Automation in material handling. He ran the Logistics Operations Trainee Program successfully after starting the Mumbai branch office from scratch. This program gave industry fresh interns, who are keen to make Logistics & Supply Chain as their first choice in their career, an opportunity to work in this sector across OEMs and 3rd Party Logistics Service Providers.

From Sept 2015, Nagendra was a freelance consultant in the supply chain domain offering his services across industry verticals. He also teaches at various leading management institutes in Mumbai like SP Jain, NMIMS, Rizvi Management Institute, SIESCO, SVIMS etc.

From Jan 2016, Nagendra is a full-time faculty at Rizvi Management Institute in the area of Logistics & Supply Chain and Operations Management.

For the past 15 years, Nagendra has balanced his corporate work with passion for teaching by equipping students with the latest developments in the practical world regarding emerging trends in logistics and supply chain. He has been giving students a good blend of domestic and international supply chain understanding thereby making them more industry-friendly.

International exposure include conferences/workshops/brief work stints in countries like Australia, Thailand, Singapore, Malaysia, Japan & Belgium apart from a 5-year work tenure in Oman & UAE.

Nagendra has conducted quite a few industry workshops in recent years with one of them being Use of Multi-modal transport in enhancing customer service where delegates from Reliance Industries, Mahindra & Mahindra and Coca-Cola gained benefit from his experience. Another one conducted was on simulating a supply chain of fresh juice (perishable product) – called The Fresh Connection – wherein industry participants are taken through multiple rounds of simulation trying to maximize the return on investment for a fictitious fresh juice-manufacturing company by balancing trade-offs between inventory and customer service as also ensuring that principles of first expiry first out (FEFO) are utilized at the warehouse, distributor & retailer end.

Nagendra acts as an effective bridge between academic goals and industry expectations from a student perspective. He also endeavors to share his experience with industry practitioners to further enhance their skill-sets in the operations and customer service domain.