

TAOFEEQ ASHIRU, DBA, PMP, MCIPS, IMBB (Innovative Leader and Strategic Problem Solver)

Summary of Qualifications

A multi-skilled and results-focused professional. With over 30 years of experience spanning the energy industry, manufacturing, academics, and consulting.

With work experience spanning diverse cultures in countries such as the United States of America, Canada, United Kingdom, Netherlands, France, Nigeria, Gabon, and Cameroon. Always seeking opportunities to contribute to organizational goals by utilizing my unique transferable skills such as:

- Project management
- Innovation management
- Supply chain management
- Facilitation and interface management
- Quantitative analytics
- Qualitative analytics
- Business strategy and analysis
- Concept identification and development
- Process improvement and optimization
- Communications
- Training
- Coaching/mentoring

Professional Experience

ProjectInnovation720LLC

April 2017 –Present

Independent Business Management Consultant/Researcher

As a licensed innovation practitioner, we help organizations create, capture, and share values by doing the right strategic projects and doing the projects right using advanced data analytics tools, project management, and innovation management. In addition, our total innovation life cycle approach helps organizations effectively tackle our highly Volatile, Uncertain, Complex, and Ambiguous (VUCA) business eco-systems.

We manage:

- Opportunity realization (Innovation capability assessment, Qualitative/Quantitative assessments, Internal/External assessments, Scenario analysis, and others)
- Ideation management (Idea generation, idea categorization, and idea selection)
- Concept design (Solution design and testing)
- Concept implementation (Innovation Project Management)
- Workshops
- Research

Serves as an advisory board member of the following organizations:

- Edition (<https://edition.co.uk>)
- Quench Innovations (<https://www.quenchinnovations.com/>)

Impacts knowledge:

As a remote, part-time faculty at Southern New Hampshire University, New England Institute of Business at Cambridge College, and Loyola University, New Orleans, I help prepare masters and doctoral students for the scholar/practitioner environment. The efforts help them successfully contribute to our business eco-systems through critical thinking, strategic positioning, analytical assessments, and innovative engagements.

Gives back through volunteerism:

- As a PMI Greater New Orleans Chapter Community Outreach program member, I work with other colleagues on project management challenges in different organizations in the region and act as a mentor to emerging project managers.
- As the USA congress representative for the Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply (CIPS), I formulated a three-year strategic plan with my colleagues in the Americas to grow membership in the region through networking, mentorship/coaching program, and various professional engagement programs.
- Takes part in various Toastmasters International activities and has been involved in the district leadership roles to grow and retain members through strategic positioning and design of exciting activities.
- I was volunteering to provide a climate solution for the Carbon Capture Project by entering the Elon Musk XPrize challenge (<https://www.xprize.org/prizes/elonmusk>). I am providing my expertise in the areas of total innovation lifecycle management and business analytics.

Key achievements

- As advisory board member helped start-up client reduce production costs of a prototype by circa 5% using the strategic sourcing process.
- Through strategic assessment of organizational internal and external situations, successfully delivered three business models that strategically repositioned client's businesses.
- Trained over 200 professionals in project management and other business related topics.
- Worked with a large facilities management/allied businesses organization with footprints in different parts of Africa and the Middle East, to assess their innovation capabilities. The identified gaps resulted in strategies that help the organization reposition its offering and launched several new innovative products.
- Developed PESTLED (Political, Economic, Social, Technology, Legal, Environmental, and Demographic) insights for eleven industries (airlines, biotech, and pharmaceuticals, car rentals, consumer electronics, e-commerce, education, facilities management, hotels, management consulting, oil and gas, and sporting). The PESTLED analysis helped the clients to understand emerging external trends and outlooks in the business eco-systems.
- Working as an advisory board member to help establish the business model to deliver innovative products and reduce manufacturing costs through a strategic sourcing process involving category management and market analysis.
- Working on a digital platform project to create a playbook aimed at establishing transformational projects through innovation focusing on the philosophies of credibility, capability, capital, connections, collaboration, co-creation, character, culture, and compactness.
- Working with a start-up organization in sub-Sahara Africa to craft strategies to set-up a small-scale palm-oil processing plant of circa 50 tons per day. The initiative is to deliver an innovative project strategy, business plan, and a strategic cashless business model for processing oil-palm from local farmers using raw fruits in exchange for finished products.

Royal Dutch Shell

June 1993 – March 2017

Project Maturation and Assurance Lead

January 2016 – March 2017

The position was responsible for the maturation and assurance of Shell Nigeria Eastern oil and gas facilities, pipelines, civil infrastructures, and electric power portfolio projects between \$20M and \$500M CAPEX to execution phases by the application of the stage-gate project opportunity realization processes, and the use of various project management tools as applicable.

Key achievements

- Led the team that optimized the domestic gas metering upgrade scope that identified 25% cost savings of the initial US\$45.4M project CAPEX. Savings are achieved by scoping the refurbishing existing metering skids, reusing piping/valves/instrumentation, scope elimination, and commercial arrangements with external gas users.
- Provided strategic inputs to the updated project plans, investment proposals, development of concepts for the maturation of electrical inter-dependency projects, and monitoring identified project risks.
- Application of full-scale Shell project delivery process to low CAPEX, low complexity portfolio projects were identified as contributors to schedule delays and over budgeting challenges. I delivered the continuous improvement initiative involving scaled project maturation processes through the roll-out/implementation of the Portfolio Project Management Manual (PPMM). The new scaled-down approach to portfolio projects applied to the produced water capacity challenges, slugging issues, and waste treatment facilities issues allowed faster project maturation to the implementation stage.

Lead Process/Project Engineer

June 2011 - December 2015

The position was part of Projects & Technology, Upstream Major Projects-Americas organization, which provided front-end engineering, detailed engineering, construction, start-up, and commissioning of Shell's major upstream projects. The position focused on Green/Brownfield & Onshore/Offshore operations Oil and Gas Project Delivery

The position was saddled with the following responsibilities and focused on both process/project engineering activities:

- Lead the engineering team to deliver major projects.
- Perform or supervise the performance of engineering design for oil and gas production systems.
- Support large greenfield development projects in the Gulf of Mexico and Internationally that range in maturity from system selection to fabrication and start-up support. Each Greenfield development represents several \$ billion (US) in capital spending.
- Support about 5 to 10 other projects (new system developments, brownfield expansions, process improvements, and others) ranging in cost from \$50-500 million (US).
- To coordinate business planning and improvement activities for the function.

Key achievements

- Embarked on a part-time doctoral research work between 2013 and 2015. Concluded a research work on understanding causes of catastrophic events in the oil and gas industry to help organizations reduce or eliminate such occurrences in the future. Case study of major catastrophic events in the hydrocarbon industry revealed causes such as failure to detect early warning signs, compromise of short-term over long-term goals, conflicts between safety and business principles, initiatives overload, ineffective communications, ineffective management of change, unclear processes and procedures, poor organizational safety culture, and complacency/normalization.
- Collaborating with various stakeholders, I delivered various project documents such as project philosophies (heating/cooling, equipment sizing, and others) and inputs to the project basis for the design.

- Facilitated the review of the Carmon Creek project's emergency power requirement philosophy using brainstorming techniques, root/cause analysis, and stakeholder engagements. The study's outcome resulted in the update of the project basis for design, the establishment of outage versus time map as inputs to the definition of the emergency/essential power outage philosophy considering the criticality of the identified situation.
- Participated in various project reviews and was responsible for closing out circa 95% of project issues through change management and interface management processes.

Lead Process Facilities Surveillance & Optimization Engineer April 2010 - May 2011

The position was responsible for providing leadership for the optimal and safe utilization of existing production and terminal facilities for enhanced oil and gas production by implementing process facilities surveillance and optimization engineering activities. Managed 40 flow stations, 6 Non-Associated Gas (NAG) plants, 20 Associated Gas (AG)/Compressor stations, one pumping station, 2,500km of flowlines and pipelines, and one crude oil export terminal to sustain circa 450,000 barrel of oil equivalent/day production, with seven direct reports.

Key achievement

- Delivered the annual facilities surveillance and optimization reports that help identify facilities issues and resolve circa 50% of these challenges through systematic analysis and proactive interventions.
- Conducted circa three major facilities safety reviews and facilitated one HAZOP with various recommendations to ensure hazard-free operations.

Principal Process Engineer

April 2008 – March 2010

The position was responsible for providing process engineering support and services to projects and asset teams in the Shell Sub-Saharan African region. Some of the key responsibilities include process simulations using software such as Unisim Hysys, Pipesim, HAZOP facilitation, quality assurance of designs using the company and industry standards, special studies, reviews, and deployment of new process engineering technologies, training and development, and other activities as required.

Key achievements

- Led peer review team to address increased flare situation at Pecten Company Cameroon facilities, with proposed operational solutions resulting in reduced flared gas, hence contributed to savings of \$15 Million cost recommended for flared gas recovery system by external consultants.
- Selected as one of the early resources to help in the cost savings initiatives from headquarters through decentralization of training; hence, facilitated online and onsite training of Process Engineering Modules resulting in regional savings of circa \$500,000.00 per annum.
- Prepared the implementation strategies and work scope for the EP Africa region's project and engineering asset integrity program.

Head Front-end & Conceptual Engineering

June 2007 – March 2008

The position was responsible for providing concept identification studies, feasibility studies, facilities surveillance and optimization, HAZOP facilitation, staff training/development, and project integration.

Key achievements

- Collaborated with various stakeholders to deliver feasibility studies, concept selection, the basis for design, and project execution plan for the project maturation of cyclonic separator (innovative compact facility) for Rabi Alpha flow station as part of the Rabi operational integrity project upgrades to unlock 20 - 30 thousand barrels per day of oil.
- Collaborated with various stakeholders to identify critical activities and bottlenecks in the Shell Gabon Engineering department. Developed new processes for project support services and mentored engineers on focused priorities resulting in improved quality, reduced staff stress levels, and increased productivity.

Senior Process/Project Engineer

January 1999 – May 2007

This role provided process/project engineering support to medium/major projects (i.e., feasibility studies, process design, workshop facilitation, reviews, special studies, and other project delivery activities). The position significantly influenced a CAPEX of over \$2 Billion integrated oil/ gas projects. Some of the key responsibilities include process simulations, equipment sizing, value engineering, feasibility studies, risk identification, project engineering, interface management, design reviews, contracts evaluation, HAZOP facilitation, site representative at various engineering vendor's offices in different parts of the world (Warri, Calgary, London, Den Haag, and Paris).

Key achievements

- Collaborating with various stakeholders, developed Non-Associated Gas (NAG) gathering concept for the Southern Swamp project as part of the inputs to the project field development plan.
- The Forcados Yorke Integrated Project was faced with a decision to either reuse or replace an existing gas pipeline. Collaborating with various stakeholders, identified the need to replace the existing gas pipeline by examining identified integrity issues, uncertainties, and cost reduction, to avert future leaks and avert catastrophic events.
- Collaborated with various stakeholders and conducted surge vessel sizing studies for the Southern Swamp project to ensure adequate degassing and vessel standardization (enable interchangeability) within the project.
- Collaborating with various stakeholders, successfully coordinated the extensive pre-mobilization of the shallow offshore pipe-laying barge (Rosamunde) and associated equipment for the Forcados Yorke integrated project.
- Collaborating with various stakeholders, represented major projects on company five-year planning activity to deliver the company business plan, considering strategic cost reduction, schedule optimization, risk identification/mitigation, and key performance indicators (KPIs).

Assignments in Procurement & Logistics/Human Resources

June 1993 – December 1998

As part of broadening assignments, I worked briefly in the procurement/logistics and human resources departments with the following responsibilities:

- Inventory management and customer services.
- Coordination of the movements of goods and personnel to the oil and gas fields.
- Development of short-term to long-term strategic corporate logistics computerization plan for the movement of personnel and materials from different operating locations.
- Establishment of competence assessment and assurance processes for procurement and logistics personnel.
- Staff development and planning
- Training

Key achievements

- We were faced with low customer satisfaction in the movement of personnel (circa 300 personnel per month) and equipment (circa \$500M per annum) to the various field and business locations. I led the Air Operations Logistics Improvement Project through customer surveys and stakeholder engagements to generate data and information for short to long-term strategic corporate logistics improvement programs and computerization initiatives for personnel and materials movement from different operating locations. The effort led to improved communication, staff training/on the job exposure, and the establishment of the corporate logistics computerization system long-term plan.
- Impacted circa 20 junior supply chain staff's career growth through competency assessment and knowledge sharing using the Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply (UK) learning framework.

Between December 1988 and June 1993, I had previous exposures to production quality control, teaching, and research at Porcelain Ware Industries Ltd., Lagos State Polytechnic, and Paterson Zochonis Industries Plc, respectively.

Education and Professional Qualifications

Education

Graduate Certificate, Business Analytics, Harvard Business Analytics Program, Cambridge, MA USA.	2020
Doctor of Business Administration - Project Management (Graduated with Distinction) Capella University, Minneapolis, MN, USA.	2016
Master of Business Administration (Graduated with Distinction) The University of Toledo, Toledo, OH, USA.	2011
Graduate Diploma, Procurement, and Supply The Chartered Institute of Procurement & Supply, Stamford, UK.	1998
Master of Science in Chemical Engineering University of Lagos, Lagos, Nigeria	1992
Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria	1988

Professional Qualifications

Project Management Professional (PMP)
Chartered Procurement and Supply Professional (MCIPS)
Certified NVivo Expert (NVivo is a Qualitative Data Analytics Software)
2nd Dan Black Belt Innovation360® Licensed Practitioner (IMBB)
(<https://licensed.innovation360.com/community/black-belts/>)

Volunteer Experience

Volunteer Experience

Yummet Team Member, X-prize Carbon Removal Competition	June 2021 - Present
Club Growth Director, Toastmasters International District 68	June 2021 - Present
Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply (CIPS) USA Congress Rep.	Nov. 2020 - Present
Division B Director, Toastmasters International District 68	June 2020 – June 2021
Area 9 Director, Toastmasters International District 68	June 2019 – June 2020
President, Northshore Toastmasters club	June 2019 – June 2020
Sergeant-at-Arm, Golden Crescent Advanced Toastmaster Club	June 2019 – June 2020
PMI Greater New Orleans Chapter Community Outreach Member	Jan 2019 - present
Vice President of Education PMI Greater New Orleans Chapter	Jan 2019 – Dec 2019
Vice President of Education Northshore Toastmasters club	June 2018 – June 2019
PMI Global Conference 2018 – Toastmaster/SME	July 2018 – Sept 2018
Capella University Ambassador/Mentor	Dec. 2015 – Present
Mentor/technical coach of a process engineer intern	Jun – Aug 2013
Facilitator of PTP/A- Upstream Americas staff community meetings	Jan – Dec 2011
Shell regional new technologies monitoring focal point	2008 – 2010
Shell regional process engineering training SME	2006 – 2010
Shell regional HAZOP facilitator	2005 – 2010
Mentor/technical coach of four young Shell Engineers	2002 – 2010
President/Captain, Shell Martial Arts Club	1997 – 2009
Board Member, Deen Foundation School	1994 – 2001
Member Board of Governors, Eric Moore High School	1989 – 1991