RYAN DELA

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I am a practical operations engineering leader in the renewable energy industry. I have significant hands-on experience working on and leading teams in the wind, solar, and battery energy storage industries.

I have worked diligently to touch every corner of the renewable energy industry, from off-grid solar to supporting the world's largest wind and solar sites. My career started in the early 2000s working for the pioneers of the modern electric vehicle industry building the technology that the modern EV industry is built on. I shifted to the wind industry in 2005, I worked my way up through the industry starting as a field technician and moved strategically through the industry leading site operations, construction management, owners engineering, independent engineering, warranty management, asset management, and leading engineering teams at a top Independent Power Producer. I started my own technical consultancy to provide freelance operations and engineering advisory services.

EDUCATION

B. Sci Manufacturing Engineering Tech – Oregon Tech 2003

EXPERIENCE

JAN 2023 - PRESENT

PRINCIPAL SYSTEMS ENGINEER, SIGMA RENEWABLE ENERGY, LLC

I offer my freelance technical expertise to many clients in the wind, solar, and energy storage industries based on my extensive experience and operations engineering expertise. I specialize in Root Cause Analysis (RCA), technical leadership, operations engineering, and technical due diligence.

FEB 2021 - NOV 2022

DIRECTOR – OPERATIONS ENGINEERING, ORSTED

I established and led an operations engineering team to support the Orsted Onshore Asset Management team. Our focus was on operational wind, solar, and energy storage projects. I built a diverse team of technical staff that supported the technical aspects of maintaining onshore utility-scale renewable energy power plants across the US. We had high expectations for growth, quality, and reliability.

SEPT 2018 - FEB 2021

TEAM LEADER / PRINCIPAL ENGINEER, WOOD PLC

I supported the Renewable Energy Operational Technical Services team in the Americas, providing consulting and engineering services to clients from Canada to Chile. I also supported the Galion scanning lidar systems and assisted oil and gas companies in their efforts to transition toward renewable energy.

JAN 2015 - SEPT 2018

TECHNICAL ACCOUNT MANAGER, SIEMENS GAMESA RENEWABLE ENERGY

I provided dedicated engineering-related technical and commercial communication support to strategic Siemens Gamesa Renewable Energy customers.

SPECIAL PROJECT ENGINEER, SIEMENS WIND POWER / SIEMENS GAMESA

I provided technical leadership for wind turbine drivetrains, advanced wind resource assessment, and reliability improvement projects. I deployed and managed a fleet of wind LiDAR systems for advanced fi wind measurements. I

also served as a technical advisor in establishing a third-party wind turbine service business that supported turbines from other turbine OEMs.

SENIOR WARRANTY MANAGER, SIEMENS WIND POWER / SIEMENS GAMESA

I bridged the gap between commercial, technical, and legal sectors to negotiate and resolve wind turbine warranty claims. In this process, I helped to establish processes and collaborated with stakeholders across departments to drive projects forward.

APRIL 2010 – DECEMBER 2014

SENIOR ENGINEER - TURBINE ASSESSMENT, GARRAD HASSAN / DNV GL

I performed wind turbine and solar technical due diligence, operational assessments, field audits, inspections, and independent and owner engineering. I specialized in independent failure and Root Cause Analysis (RCA) investigations for insurance companies, investors, banks, governments, OEMs, and asset owners. It is hard to capture how much work I did for such a broad spectrum of customers.

SEPT 2006 - APRIL 2010

SMALL BUSINESS OWNER, GREAT NORTHERN ENERGY SYSTEMS

I ventured into entrepreneurship and successfully built an automated biodiesel reactor and vehicle fuel system conversion kit. This early effort was upended by changes in biofuel incentive programs in 2007. I pivoted to small-scale residential solar and small wind energy installations. Due to the market collapse surrounding the 2008 financial crisis and the following recovery stimulus, I chose to return to the utility-scale renewable energy industry.

SEPT 2007 – SEPT 2009

WIND OPERATIONS MANAGER, HORIZON WIND ENERGY / EDPR

I managed day-to-day operations at the 101MW Elkhorn Valley Wind Farm in Union, Oregon. The project has sixty-one Vestas V82 wind turbines and a substation. I transitioned the project from construction to operations, navigated several early operations serial defect issues at the site, and managed the completion of the open punch list items left over from construction, including building the operations building and replacing all of the pad mount transformers, to name just a few.

JUNE 2005 – SEPT 2007

FIELD ENGINEER, ENERGY MAINTENANCE SERVICE

I worked as a traveling wind energy technician, field engineer, and owner representative. EMS allowed me to gain hands-on experience early in my career in the wind industry performing turbine construction, repair, and maintenance, as well as developing internal processes and a quality assurance program.

OCT 2004 - MAY 2005

MECHANICAL ENGINEER, TESLA MOTORS

I had the privilege of being one of the earliest employees of Tesla Motors (#13) following a stint working for their primary technical partner, AC Propulsion. My main responsibility was constructing the first Tesla Roadster prototype showcasing the integration of lithium-ion batteries, AC Propulsion power electronics, and drivetrain technology into a converted Lotus Elise.

During this formative time, I contributed to developing numerous pioneering technologies and strategies that helped shape Tesla into what it is today and the larger electric vehicle and battery energy storage industries.

APRIL 2004 – OCT 2004
MECHANICAL ENGINEER, AC PROPULSION

Ryan Dela - Sigma Renewable Energy

I was part of a small skilled team that hand-built high-performance prototype electric vehicles for various research and development programs, government agencies, and automakers. I built concept car drivetrains at AC Propulsion, including the Volvo 3CC (which later became the Volvo C30), the Venturi Fetish, and the Tesla Roadster prototype. These vehicles relied on large arrays of Lithium-Ion batteries, like those used in laptops, a technology that AC Propulsion developed between 2003 and 2004. My responsibilities at AC Propulsion included vehicle fabrication, system validation, testing, manual machining, welding, power system integration, battery system design, and lithiumion battery control systems.

SEPT 2003 - APRIL 2004

PROJECT ENGINEER, OREGON TECH – OREGON RENEWABLE ENERGY CENTER

I built and managed an applied research laboratory engineering space focused on renewable energy technology development and applications.

JUNE 2001 – SEPT 2002

FIELD ENGINEER INTERN, GENERAL ELECTRIC TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS

Working during school breaks, I worked at the Union Pacific - Hinkle Locomotive Maintenance Facility to troubleshoot and support GE railroad locomotive maintenance and repair.