

## Keynote Speaker Information

**Dr. Elizabeth Cudney**

**President of Cudney Consulting Group, LLC,**

**Professor of Data Analytics in the John E. Simon School of Business at Maryville University**

**Title for keynote: Quality 4.0: The Role of Quality Professionals in Data Analytics, Sustainability, and Global Innovation**

### **Biography**

Dr. Elizabeth Cudney is President of Cudney Consulting Group, LLC, and a Professor of Data Analytics in the John E. Simon School of Business at Maryville University. She received her B.S. in Industrial Engineering from North Carolina State University, Master of Engineering in Mechanical Engineering and MBA from the University of Hartford, and doctorate in Engineering Management from the University of Missouri–Rolla. She received the 2023 Walter E. Masing Book Prize from the International Academy for Quality for her book on Lean Sustainability. Dr. Cudney received the 2022 Crosby Medal from ASQ and the 2021 Bernard R. Sarchet Award from ASEE EMD for “lifetime achievement in engineering management education. She received the 2021 Walter E. Masing Book Prize from the International Academy for Quality for her book on Lean Six Sigma. In 2018, Dr. Cudney received the ASQ Crosby Medal for her book on Design for Six Sigma. Dr. Cudney received the 2018 IISE Fellow Award. She also received the 2017 Yoshio Kondo Academic Research Prize from the International Academy for Quality for sustained performance in exceptional published works. In 2014, Dr. Cudney was elected as an ASEM Fellow. In 2013, Dr. Cudney was elected as an ASQ Fellow. In 2010, Dr. Cudney was inducted into the International Academy for Quality. She received the 2008 ASQ A.V. Feigenbaum Medal and the 2006 SME Outstanding Young Manufacturing Engineering Award. She has published 14 books and over 130 peer-reviewed journal papers. Dr. Cudney is a certified Lean Six Sigma Master Black Belt. She holds eight ASQ certifications, which include ASQ Certified Quality Engineer, Manager of Quality/Operational Excellence, and Certified Six Sigma Black Belt, amongst others.

**Carlos E. Da Silva**

**VP of Quality at NewPower Worldwide**

**US Lead Expert at ANSI/ASQ TAG 176 & 69**

**Title for Keynote: Problem Solving in the age of AI**

### **Biography:**

Lean and Quality Management Systems evangelist, with more than 35 years of experience in quality methodologies for risk mitigation, improvement of process controls, ISO 9001, IATF 16949 and Q1 certifications, and organizational excellence by promoting continual improvement within small to large manufacturing and service organizations worldwide as a result of increased people knowledge and enhancing team competencies in problem solving and decision making causing growing in profitability and better customer experience:

- Quality Management Systems Lead Expert representing the US at ISO Technical Committee 176

- Statistics and Data Analysis Expert and Delegate representing the US at ISO Technical Committee 69
- Senior member of American Society for Quality
- Alumni of the Shingo Institute – Organizational Excellence Model
- Implemented Automotive Core Tools (PPAP, APQP, FMEA, Control Plan) during the last 25 years, with articles published by Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE)
- International Board Member at MESA (Manufacturing Enterprise Solutions Association)
- Participated as a Judge in the International Team Excellence competition
- Certified Manager of Quality and Organizational Excellence (CMQ/OE),
- Certified Quality Auditor (CQA),
- Certified Software Quality Engineer (CSQE),
- Six Sigma Black Belt (SBTI),
- Lean Green Belt (FNOK),

**Michael Premsagar**

**Director of Module Engineering  
Global Foundries**

**Title for Keynote: Semiconductor Quality - Speed & Reliability**

**Biography:**

Michael Premsagar is the Director of Module Engineering at Global Foundries' Fab 9 in Burlington, VT. In this role, he manages process and equipment engineering teams responsible for delivering semiconductor solutions across Aerospace, Automotive, Infrastructure, and Mobile Device markets. Michael possesses and applies skills in Device Characterization, Process Integration, Module Engineering and specializes in Supplier Management to effectively balance Q,C,D,T,V,S initiatives. In his spare time, Michael enjoys time with family and friends golfing, skiing, mountain biking and travelling.

**Dr. Mark Chockalingam**

**President and CEO of Valtitude**

Dr. Mark Chockalingam is the President and CEO of Valtitude, a supply chain consultancy that specializes in helping companies transform their supply chains with a focus on Demand Planning, S&OP and Inventory Optimization.

Mark has over twenty years of consulting and corporate experience in the areas of Predictive Analytics, Sales forecasting, Supply Chain Optimization, and Integrated Business Planning. His primary focus is on helping clients with usable planning solutions – having re-engineered processes and systems of many Fortune 500 companies. Mark has consulted many Marquee names including Wyeth-Pfizer, Miller SAB, FMC, Labatt USA, Sabra and Tropicana - both divisions of Pepsi Foods, Schlumberger, Honeywell, Facebook (now Meta), Qualcomm, Abbott, M&M Mars etc.

Dr. Chockalingam is a renowned speaker and has facilitated numerous workshops around the world on supply chain topics. Mark Chockalingam edits the [Forecastingblog.com](http://Forecastingblog.com) and provides thought leadership on Linked-In forums.

Prior to establishing his consulting practice, Mark worked with manufacturing companies in key supply chain positions including FedEx, Merck, and Gillette P&G. Dr. Chockalingam started his career as a Technical Advisor with the International Forecasting group at Federal Express in Memphis. Following this stint, he managed the Demand Planning process for the Sun care, Foot care and OTC businesses for Schering-Plough/Merck in Memphis. Mark moved to Gillette Company in Boston as Director of Market Analysis and Demand Planning. The Gillette Company is now part of Procter and Gamble where he played a key role in the supply chain transformation of the North American business and in the formation of North American Value chain group.

Mark has a Ph. D. in Finance from Arizona State University, an MBA from the University of Toledo and is a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India.