Kazuo 'Kaz' Takeda

Manager, Industrial Engineering

About Me

Kazuo 'Kaz' Takeda is a Manager of Industrial Engineering for the Disneyland® Resort. Since 1998, Kaz has been responsible for both strategic and tactical operational functions focused on creating and maintaining a world class theme park operation.

In his role, he is accountable for planning and improving the sustainment operations for two Theme Parks, three Hotels, and multiple retail and dining locations. His experience ranges from working with maintenance, security, textiles and horticulture, to serving on various support units which orchestrate media events and drive theme park performance.

Kaz began his career as a quality control engineer within the home satellite television industry. He then joined Telescreen LTD as the US logistics manager for their international animation studio production group. In 1988, Kaz joined United Parcel Service in their industrial engineer division, supporting multiple initiatives from the creation of Quality Incentive Bonus system to the opening of new buildings and air gateways.

Since joining the Disneyland® Resort, his work has continued on all aspects of Resort business and operations from being a core member of the Disney California Adventure grand opening press event team to implementation of process standards and creation of a Sound Technician, Electrician and Machinist Union craft apprenticeship/trainee program within the Resort's maintenance division.

Kaz is an active member of the Institute of Industrial Systems Engineering National Leadership Committee as Assistant Region Vice President and Chapter Development Fund Committee Chair. He also serves on the National Industry Advisory Board and has been elected into the rank of IISE Fellow.

At the university level, Kaz serves on the USC, Cal Poly Pomona and Cal Poly SLO Industrial Engineering Advisory Committee's, University of Redlands School of Business Advisory Board and is a part time instructor at USC Daniel J. Epstein Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering. He received his Bachelor degree from California State University at Long Beach and his MBA with an emphasis on GIS at the University of Redlands.