JULIAN MERCER

PROCESS ENGINEER

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Process Engineer with 10+ years in regulated and high-volume manufacturing across medical devices, specialty materials, and consumer paper. Improves yield, cycle time, and process capability using DOE, SPC, and validation discipline. Partners with operations, quality, and maintenance to turn line data into lasting changes.

CORE SKILLS

Design of experiments | Statistical process control | Process validation (IQ/OQ/PQ) | Root cause analysis | Lean manufacturing | Six Sigma DMAIC | FMEA | Minitab | Power BI | OEE analysis | CAPA | P&ID reading | Gauge R&R

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Senior Process Engineer Feb 2022 - Present
Abbott Laboratories, Lake County, IL

- Lead process improvement for a diagnostic reagent filling line running three shifts, raising first-pass yield from 91% to 96%.
- Designed a five-factor DOE on fill volume, nozzle speed, and temperature that cut volume variation by 38% and removed a recurring rework loop.
- Authored IQ, OQ, and PQ protocols for a new capping station and closed validation two weeks ahead of the planned launch date.
- Built SPC dashboards in Minitab and Power BI for 14 critical parameters, giving operators early warning before drift reached specification limits.
- Mentor two junior engineers on root-cause analysis, and review every CAPA they write before it goes to quality.

Process Engineer Jul 2019 - Jan 2022
3M, Cottage Grove, MN

- Optimized coating oven zones on an adhesive film line, reducing scrap by 22% and saving roughly $310,000 a year in raw materials.
- Led a kaizen event with operators and maintenance that cut changeover time from 95 to 62 minutes.
- Investigated a gauge R&R failure on an in-line thickness sensor and replaced the calibration routine, restoring capability above Cpk 1.5.
- Wrote 25 standard work instructions after a layout change so new operators reached full speed in under two weeks.

Associate Process Engineer Jul 2016 - Jun 2019
Kimberly-Clark, Neenah, WI

- Tracked downtime events on a tissue converting line and used Pareto analysis to prioritize fixes that lifted OEE from 71% to 78%.
- Ran trials on a revised perforation roll specification, which cut web breaks by 30% across two product families.
- Maintained process FMEAs for three lines and updated them after every significant change or customer complaint.
- Supported a $1.2M equipment upgrade through vendor specification, factory acceptance, and start-up troubleshooting.

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI

CERTIFICATIONS

Six Sigma Green Belt, ASQ | Engineer in Training (EIT), Wisconsin | OSHA 30-Hour General Industry