

Influential Women Distinguish Sharon McDonald, MBA, As Production Management Supervisor At Alcon

HOUSTON, TX, UNITED STATES, August 6, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- With a Commitment to Innovation, Accountability, and Continuous Growth, Sharon McDonald Leads High-Performance Manufacturing Operations Supporting Life-Changing Ophthalmic Surgical Care

Houston, Texas – Sharon McDonald, MBA, is a Production Management Supervisor with extensive experience in medical device manufacturing and operational leadership at Alcon. Throughout her career, she has built expertise within a highly regulated cleanroom manufacturing environment, supporting the production of critical medical devices used in emergency eye surgeries, including cataract and retinal procedures.



Known for her operational discipline, commitment to quality, and ability to strengthen team performance, Sharon plays an essential role in ensuring that production operations align with organizational goals while meeting the highest standards for safety, delivery, and cost efficiency. In her current leadership role, she oversees multi-area production operations, guiding teams through complex manufacturing processes while fostering accountability, collaboration, and continuous improvement.

At Alcon, Sharon leads teams responsible for assembling specialized and customer-specific surgical kits used by ophthalmic surgeons around the world. These kits contain essential components required for successful surgical procedures, including gowns, drapes, needles, syringes, towels, and other critical medical supplies.

Working within a strict cleanroom environment, Sharon ensures that production teams follow rigorous procedures designed to maintain sterility, product integrity, and compliance with medical device manufacturing standards. Employees must follow detailed gowning requirements, including wearing hair nets, shoe covers, and full protective attire to prevent contamination and ensure patient safety.

Beyond production execution, Sharon collaborates with cross-functional teams, including sales and commercial partners, to support changing physician needs and evolving market demands. This includes coordinating production requirements for bulk surgical orders and customized procedural kits based on specific customer requirements and scheduled surgical volumes.

With nearly a decade of progressive experience at Alcon, Sharon has developed a comprehensive understanding of manufacturing operations from multiple perspectives. Her career progression has allowed her to work across various departments, production areas, and shift structures, giving her valuable insight into the full manufacturing lifecycle.

Her experience includes supporting custom doctor builds, where she helped create tailored surgical kit configurations designed to meet physician preferences and procedural requirements. She has also worked in resin molding operations, where raw materials are transformed into precision medical components through specialized manufacturing processes.

Having worked across different production environments, Sharon understands the importance of every step in the manufacturing process and how each department contributes to overall success. She believes cross-functional experience strengthens operational performance because it allows leaders to understand challenges, identify opportunities for improvement, and create solutions that support both employees and customers.

Sharon attributes much of her success to her passion for growth, learning, and continuous improvement. She has always been motivated by the desire to expand her knowledge, develop new skills, and avoid becoming complacent in her career.

Since childhood, Sharon has embraced a mindset centered around progression and discovery. Once she learns something and feels she has mastered it, she naturally begins looking toward the next opportunity and asking herself, "What's next? What can I do now?"

This curiosity has driven her professional development and encouraged her to continually challenge herself. While some individuals may feel comfortable remaining in familiar roles, Sharon has always sought opportunities to grow, explore new responsibilities, and broaden her understanding of operations and leadership.

For Sharon, success is not defined by reaching one destination but by continuing to evolve. Her commitment to lifelong learning has helped her adapt to new challenges, take on leadership

opportunities, and consistently improve both herself and the teams she supports.

One of the most influential moments in Sharon's career came when she received guidance from a previous director during a period when she was transitioning into management. Although she had significant experience and knowledge, she was uncertain about her next steps as she stepped into a leadership position.

Rather than simply giving instructions, her director took the time to understand her goals by asking a meaningful question: "What do you want to do?"

Once he understood Sharon's aspirations, he helped her create a path toward achieving them. That experience had a lasting impact because it showed her the importance of mentorship, encouragement, and leaders who genuinely invest in the growth of others.

Sharon believes effective leaders should not only focus on their own success but should also help develop the next generation of professionals. Having someone willing to say, "Let me help you get where you want to go," demonstrated the value of supportive leadership and shaped how she approaches mentoring and encouraging others.

Her advice to young women entering manufacturing and leadership is to build confidence, believe in their abilities, and recognize the value they bring to the workplace.

Sharon believes many talented women hesitate because they worry about how others may perceive them or whether they belong in certain roles. However, she encourages women to trust their skills, embrace opportunities, and confidently pursue positions where they can make an impact.

She recognizes that manufacturing and technical industries have historically included more men in leadership positions, but she has seen increasing opportunities for women to step forward and demonstrate their capabilities.

Sharon encourages women not to assume certain roles are out of reach. If they have the passion, skills, and desire to contribute, they should speak up, take initiative, and pursue opportunities that align with their goals. Her message is clear: confidence matters. Women should trust their abilities, take chances, and be willing to step outside their comfort zones because growth often comes through new challenges.

One of the biggest challenges Sharon currently sees in her field is managing changing market demands while navigating supply chain disruptions and material availability issues.

Over the past several years, manufacturing organizations have experienced challenges with obtaining necessary materials from suppliers. While market demand may indicate the need for increased production, supply limitations can create significant operational obstacles.

Sharon experienced firsthand how a single supplier disruption could impact an entire operation. When one vendor experienced equipment issues, production capacity was dramatically reduced. Materials that were previously delivered daily in large quantities became available only once per week in significantly smaller amounts.

These disruptions required quick decision-making, including identifying alternative vendors, validating quality standards, and ensuring that new suppliers could successfully integrate with existing manufacturing processes.

The challenges impacted more than production schedules. They also affected employees, as reduced material availability sometimes resulted in limited work and difficult decisions regarding staffing.

When the supplier eventually restored production, additional quality concerns emerged as the vendor worked to increase output. Issues such as missing components, defective materials, and bent needles required further inspection, product holds, and returns to maintain quality standards.

For Sharon, these experiences demonstrate the importance of adaptability, strong partnerships, and proactive problem-solving. She believes successful organizations must remain flexible while continuing to prioritize safety, quality, and operational excellence.

At the core of Sharon's leadership philosophy are two values: innovation and accountability.

She believes innovation is essential for finding better solutions, improving processes, and adapting to an evolving business environment. Having the ability to think differently and approach challenges creatively allows individuals and organizations to discover new opportunities for improvement.

Equally important to Sharon is accountability. She believes taking ownership of decisions, responsibilities, and outcomes builds trust and strengthens teams. Accountability ensures that individuals remain committed to achieving goals while supporting one another.

For Sharon, innovation and accountability work hand in hand. By embracing new ideas while maintaining responsibility and integrity, teams can achieve stronger results and continue progressing toward future success.

Through her leadership at Alcon, Sharon McDonald continues to make a meaningful impact in medical device manufacturing by supporting operational excellence, developing people, and helping ensure that critical surgical products reach healthcare providers around the world. Her dedication to growth, innovation, and accountability reflects a career committed to improving processes, empowering teams, and contributing to the future of healthcare manufacturing.

Learn More about Sharon McDonald:

Through her Influential Women profile, <https://influentialwomen.com/connect/Sharon-McDonald>

Influential Women

Influential Women provides a platform where women from all backgrounds can connect, share their perspectives, and create content that empowers themselves and others. Through storytelling, thought leadership, and creative expression, Influential Women amplifies voices that inspire change.

Editorial Team
Influential Women
[email us here](#)

This press release can be viewed online at: <https://www.einpresswire.com/article/932189248>

EIN Presswire's priority is source transparency. We do not allow opaque clients, and our editors try to be careful about weeding out false and misleading content. As a user, if you see something we have missed, please do bring it to our attention. Your help is welcome. EIN Presswire, Everyone's Internet News Presswire™, tries to define some of the boundaries that are reasonable in today's world. Please see our Editorial Guidelines for more information.

© 1995-2026 Newsmatics Inc. All Right Reserved.