Alan D. Whitfield

Operations Manager — Manufacturing & Supply Chain

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4 August 2026

Ms. Priya Raman
Head of Manufacturing Operations
Calder Industrial Group plc
Calder Works, Wakefield Road, Huddersfield HD5 9AA

Application for Plant Operations Manager (ref. CIG-2026-118)

Dear Ms. Raman,

I am writing to apply for the position of Plant Operations Manager advertised on your careers site under reference CIG-2026-118. I currently run a 180-person, three-shift precision machining plant for Ravenscroft Precision, where I am accountable for output, quality, safety and a £45m operating budget. Calder's investment in the Huddersfield site and its stated move towards a pull-based production model is precisely the kind of programme I have delivered before, and I would very much like to lead it.

Over the past five years my focus has been turning unpredictable plants into dependable ones. At Ravenscroft I rebuilt the finite-capacity schedule and introduced a daily constraint review, which lifted on-time in-full delivery from 87 to 98.4 per cent across eight quarters. In the same period I brought scrap and rework down from 4.1 to 2.7 per cent of output — an annualised saving of £610,000 — and commissioned two new CNC lines three weeks ahead of a eleven-month plan and inside a £3.8m capital budget. Three things I would bring on day one:

- Direct experience of commissioning new lines while a plant is running at full volume, including the shift-pattern and training changes that decide whether the plan holds.
- A practical approach to lean: standard work, changeover reduction and operator-led statistical process control, rather than a poster campaign.
- A record of taking sites through ISO 9001 recertification with no major non-conformances, and of working constructively with union representatives through change.

I am available for interview at short notice and could begin after a three-month notice period, or sooner by agreement. My CV is enclosed with the detail behind each of the figures above, and I would welcome the chance to walk the Huddersfield line with you and discuss what the first hundred days should look like. Thank you for considering my application.

Yours sincerely,

A. Whitfield

Alan D. Whitfield

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Enclosed: Curriculum vitae (3 pages) · Two written references