

OBME LLC - Oliver Berger

Services & Main Expertise:

Manufacturing Engineering, Launch Management, Project Management, Equipment Planning, Customer Management, Supplier Management, Interim Leadership roles

updated: June 2026

Contract & Consulting Experience (OBME LLC – 7 years):

- **Manufacturing Engineering and Launch Management for Tier 1 companies producing Hypoid Gears, Rear Axles, Front Axles, Clutches, Slip Yokes, Spline Tube Shafts and Wheel Bearings.**
 - Axle Backlash First Time Through (FTT) improvements from <80% to 97%+ resulting in \$4m annual scrap reduction (MO, USA).
 - Development of Statement of Requirements for Axle Assembly and Clutch assembly for Quoting purposes (remote for plant in IN, USA).
 - Technical write-ups and Assembly & Test Concepts for Automation companies for Quoting Purposes. Products: Axles, PTUs, eBeam Axles. Tube Assemblies, Transfer Cases, Clutches and other (USA based Automation companies)
 - Manufacturing Engineering support and launch of new Assembly lines.
 - Project 1 (KY, USA): Successful cycle time reduction from 120 sec to 90 sec (floor to floor)
 - Project 2 (OH, USA): Line improvements from 10 part/per hour, 28 parts / per hour through line balancing, gauge equipment improvements, added conveyor & pallets and FTT improvements from <70% to up to 96%+
 - Launch Management for Equipment Transfer of 5 Wheel Bearing Assembly Lines (PA, USA)
 - Launch Management for 4 Bearing ID Grinder including Automation for Feeding and Post Process Gauging. Involved aligning (from IN to PA) different suppliers and managing the interfaces from start of project to launch.
- **Contract Project Management for Automation Equipment Supplier.**
 - Onsite Project Management for late and over budget Battery Assembly Line Projects.
 - Project 1 Value (IL, USA) = \$15m (refurbishment & extension project)
 - Project 2 Value (AZ, USA) = \$70m (new)
 - Interim PMO Director for Automation equipment (Medical Devices) in Scotland UK
 - Successfully managed 8 PMs responsible for over 20 active & critical projects, until local PMO Director could be hired.
 - Extended assignment in the UK to manage 5 critical projects (behind on schedule & over budget).
 - Successfully managed projects to maintain schedule and partially recover budgets.
 - Onsite Project Management to support project closure for Magnet Manufacturing & Assembly systems to enable release of final payments
 - Project value (SC, USA) = \$50m

Contact:

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Born: May 14th, 1975 – Öhringen / Germany.

US Green Card Holder

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Corporate Career with Getrag, GKN (21 years)

Manufacturing Engineering Product & Technology Experience:

- **All aspects of Production & Manufacturing of Transmissions, Rear Axles, PTUs & Clutches.**
 - Assembly of Rear Axles, Front Axles, PTUs, Differentials, Manual Transmissions, Dual Clutch Transmissions, Hydraulic and Electromagnetic Clutches
 - End of Line (EOL) Testing of Rear Axles, Front Axles, PTUs, Manual Transmissions, Dual Clutch Transmissions, Hydraulic and Electromagnetic Clutches
 - NVH, Leak Test, Clutch Testing & Matching.
 - Laserwelding
 - Aluminum Housing Machining
 - Spiral Bevel Gear Set Machining Incl. Heat treat.
- **Setting up Quality Controls in Manufacturing** (e.g., torque angle, Press windows, Leak Test Parameter,)
- **Red X studies**
- **Cycle Time analysis and improvements**
- **Cycle Time simulation studies**
- **Through-put improvements**
- **Value Stream Mapping activities**
- **Gauging systems – analysis and improvements**
 - Gauge R&Rs
 - Gauge Design
- **APQP**
- **Continuous Improvements**
- **Tolerance stack-up studies.**
- **First Time Through improvements**

Planning & Strategic Experience:

- **Equipment Planning from conceptual development all the way into production.**
 - Involved with a leading role in 20+ successful Assembly Line, EOL & Laserwelding projects ranging from US\$1m – US\$10m each.
- **Customer Management**
 - Years of experience working with OEMs (GM, FCA, BMW, Ford, ...) through projects, launches, PPAPs, SOPs.
 - Leading role in presenting the technical aspects of the projects to the customer (often sole presenter) and getting their approval and buy-in of the solutions, plans and timing presented.
- **Responsible for Global Assembly concept development for AWD products (Rear Axles, Front Axles, PTUs) with multiple plants in Europe, Asia and America region.**
- **Quoting and Budget Planning**
 - Responsible for Budget Planning and Execution for 10+ years
 - Experience in quoting projects to customers for 10+ years
- **Launch Experience**
 - Involved in 20+ launches (averaging min. 1 per year), including a green field plant launch in Mexico.

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Career Path, Education, Experience:

I'm a highly motivated, driven & experienced individual that has successfully worked through all the ups and downs in the Automotive industry. Worked my way up from shop floor engineer to upper management of a 1700 employee manufacturing facility. Averaging a minimum of 1 launch per year over 20 years, made me get used to the high intensity, high stress environment of the manufacturing industry.

Multitasking and keeping the focus on the priorities is one of my strengths, without letting the "noise" around me influence my decisions and results, always having safety, quality and the company reputation in mind.

Through my global assignments, I travelled all around the world and can adjust quickly to the cultures and work environments in different cities, states and countries.

I'm flexible and can take the lead on manufacturing engineering, launch or project management tasks you may have.

Education:

1985 - 1994	High school – Hohenlohe Gymnasium, Öhringen, Germany Final high-school diploma ("Abitur")
1994 – 1995	Social Year at "Arbeiterwohlfahrt Öhringen" working with elderly and handicapped children (Öhringen, Germany)
1995 – 1997	Apprenticeship as industrial mechanic at Getrag Neuenstein (Germany) in conjunction with local college (Gewerbeschule Öhringen – Germany) Certificate as "Industrial Mechanic" ("Gesellenbrief")
1997 – 2000	College for Manufacturing Engineering at "Berufsakademie (BA)" in Stuttgart / Germany, sponsored by Getrag Neuenstein / Germany Bachelor's Degree (Dipl. Ing. BA) obtained in September 2000

20+ years Automotive & Automation Industry experience

14 years Getrag Germany and North America

7 years with GKN Driveline

9 years Globody LLC – Sunless Tanning company

7 years OBME LLC Automotive Consulting

- 2-years Apprentice ship in **Germany** at Transmission Manufacturer **Getrag**
- 1-year Assembly **Process Engineer** for Manual Transmissions at **Getrag / Germany**
- 1-year Assembly **Process Engineer** for Rear Axles at **Getrag USA / NC**
- 2-years **Assembly & NVH Planning Engineer** for Rear Axles & PTUs at **Getrag USA / NC**
- 3-years **Project Planning Leader for Rear Axles & PTUs Assembly Lines & EOL equipment** at **Getrag USA / NC**
- 3-years **Manufacturing Engineering Manager** for Assembly - **Getrag USA / NC**
- 1-year **Engineering Launch Manager** – Green Field Plant Start-up for Dual Clutch Transmissions – **Getrag / Irapuato, Mexico**
- 2-years **Manufacturing Engineering Manager** for Assembly – **Getrag/GKN USA / NC**
- 2-years **Industrial Planning Manager** Bevel Gear Machining, Aluminum Housing Machining & Assembly - **GKN USA / NC**
- 2-years **Global Manufacturing Development Manager** all GKN plants globally – home base – **Newton, NC USA**
- 1-year **Manufacturing Engineering Director** – GKN USA / NC while continuing role as **Global Manufacturing Development Manager**

Resigned in September 2017 to start 2 businesses:

- 9-years Globody Sunless Tanning Company – COO (owned by my wife and I).
- 7-years OBME LLC contract / consulting support for Automation suppliers & Automotive Tier 1 suppliers in the US and Europe