

Thomas Ihle

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Personal Details:
09-11-1976 • Swiss



SENIOR EXECUTIVE - OPERATIONS & SUPPLY CHAIN

Executive Profile

Senior executive and advisor with 15+ years of international experience across supply chain strategy, logistics, customer service and end-to-end operations in multinational FMCG, luxury, and regulated manufacturing environments. Proven track record in leading complex, multi-country organizations at Director level, driving large-scale transformations, and partnering closely with executive leadership on strategy, performance, and value creation.

Recognized for delivering measurable improvements in service performance, cost-to-serve, operational resilience, working capital and sustainability across complex multinational operations. Strong people leader with extensive experience building and leading senior management teams in matrix organizations. Trusted sparring partner to C-level executives on operational strategy, transformation and governance.

Core Competencies

- Supply Chain & Operations Strategy
- Leadership & People Development
- End-to-End Planning (S&OP / IBP)
- Global Logistics & Distribution
- Customer Service & OTC Excellence
- Change & Digital Enablement
- Consulting & Advisory
- Compliance & Audit
- Project Management

Career Experience

La Prairie Group AG, Zürich (Beiersdorf Group)

2021 – 2025

Director Global Logistics, Customer Service & E2E Planning

Executive responsibility for global logistics, customer service and end-to-end planning across 80+ markets.

- Led global supply chain operations spanning E2E-Planning, logistics, inventory management, and customer service.
- Drove large-scale transformation initiatives, increasing service levels to >98%, reducing transport costs by 15%, and lowering emissions by ~6,000 tCO₂e.
- Built and led international teams across Europe and Asia, strengthening leadership capabilities, governance, and operational resilience.
- Defined and implemented global inventory strategies, reducing working capital exposure while improving availability and robustness.
- Acted as key advisor to senior management on network design, risk mitigation, and strategic priorities.

Nestlé S.A., Vevey, Switzerland

2019 – 2021

Logistics Manager & Senior Project Manager

Senior operational and project leadership roles within the world's largest FMCG supply chain organization.

- Managed logistics and supply chain operations for the Swiss market within a highly complex, regulated FMCG environment.

- Led strategic initiatives within the Global Logistics Excellence Network (internal consultancy model).
- Delivered transformation, digitalization, and cost-efficiency programs across logistics and planning functions.
- Ensured strong alignment between production centers, regional hubs, and senior stakeholders.

Hayek Engineering AG, Zürich, Switzerland

20008 – 2018

Senior Consultant – Supply chain Expert (Luxury & FMCG Focus)

Advisory role supporting executive leadership of multinational industrial and luxury goods organizations.

- Led and supported large-scale logistics, production, and infrastructure projects for Swatch Group companies.
- Advised on automated distribution centers, logistics and production site concepts, capacity planning, and investment decisions.
- Delivered S&OP, Lean Six Sigma, and digitalization projects, achieving significant throughput improvements and operational cost reductions.
- Facilitated leadership trainings in Lean Management process modelling.
- Led interim operations and production planning teams within luxury watchmaking houses.
- Reduced Omega's service throughput time by 35% through Lean methodology deployment.

Previous Roles

Calida Holding AG, Sursee, Switzerland -> Production Planner

L'Oréal SA -> Logistics Manager

DHC Europe LTD (Start-Up Experience) -> Transport Manager

Danzas (Freight Forwarder); Hong Kong -> Transport Manager

Education & Credentials

Executive MBA in Corporate Finance

HEC Lausanne, Switzerland

Bachelor's in business economics

University of Nürtingen, Germany

Diploma in Supply Chain Management (European Senior Logistician)

European Logistics Association

Certifications

SC-Management: Leading with AI and Digital Transformation MIT Program (2025)

PMP Project management professional (2018)

Lean Manager, SGO (2017)

Tangible Business Process Modelling (2016)

Languages

German – Native | English and French – Fluent

IT-Skills

SAP (MM; PP and SD)

Data Analytics (PowerBI; Tableau)

MS Office; Celonis