



IS PROUD TO PRESENT

RAJASHEKHAR VODELA
CEO, NOVA DESIGN BUILD

AS ONE OF THE

Top 10 Managing Directors in Construction & Infra – 2023

This is an annual recognition that showcases exceptional business leaders in the construction and infrastructure industry who guide the organization to its future by setting benchmarks across several key parameters.

Sujith Vasudevan
Managing Editor



Construction leaders are passing the baton of advanced infrastructure towards the resurgence of a new generation

CEO Insights **TOP 10**
MANAGING DIRECTORS IN
CONSTRUCTION & INFRA **2023**

A Holy Confluence of the Intuition of an Architect & Technology is setting up the Foundation of Growing Age of India

Infrastructure can be defined as the foundation structure of a country which widely influences the other parameters of growth in a country. The economic growth of a country is always determined by the growth and advancement of infrastructure and services and facilities offered by the country. New ideas and designs are budding every single day with the progress of Architectural science. This new age construction is backed by the ideas from expert and experienced civil engineers who works laboriously and honestly to find out gem like ideas and technology to skyrocket the profit of the builders.

Significance of Architecture: Infrastructure is called the backbone of any country because it unveils the economic structure of the country. The infrastructure and constructional advancement can catalyze the holistic economic growth by influencing the other sectors of economy like employment better health and education. Better infrastructure can attract the big fat MNCs to invest in the country and as the result, it will improve the employment scenario by recruiting a large work force. A sound infrastructure can highly influence the growth of trade by enhancing economic productivity.

Leaders in Construction: Construction leaders works as the torchbearer of the project and design the whole process, draw the outlines of the project, makes the budget, conduct an equipment inventory, coordinate with all contractors to create a baseline schedule to complete the project phases on time after that the real construction work begins. A construction project needs a large investment and takes a long time to be executed. So, the responsibility of construction leaders is to check and examine the investments and quality of raw materials time and again and at the same time should keep the whole process of work under the surveillance.

CEO Insights in this issue presents a list of 'Top 10 Managing Directors in Construction & Infra - 2023' who have leveraged their extensive industry expertise and experience in offering effective skills to the market. The following list has been prepared after being closely scrutinized by a distinguished panel of judges including CXOs, analysts and our editorial board. We recognize their valuable contribution to the ever expanding and competitive market and their ability to sustain themselves and emerge as top contestants through their reliable knowledge.

JASPREET BHULLAR

CEO & MANAGING DIRECTOR

Hindustan Construction Company
Mumbai
hccindia.com

A dynamic leader with over 30 years of work experience managing businesses and construction of large building, infrastructure and hydroelectric projects

K. NARASIMHA REDDY

MANAGING DIRECTOR

KNR Constructions
Hyderabad
knrl.com

A passionate leader with over 40-years of extensive knowledge and experience in multi project planning, scheduling, and cost controls in the construction and infrastructure sector

KIRAN KUMAR

FOUNDER & MANAGING DIRECTOR

Buildhood Infratech
Bangalore
buildhood.com

A passionate leader with expertise in planning and architecture service, house/villa construction, interior design and execution, and home renovation, and remodeling

RAJASHEKHAR VODELA

CEO & MANAGING DIRECTOR

Nova Design Build
Hyderabad
novadb.in

An industry expert in construction, design-build, and property development, having extensive experience in the US and in India

SREEKUMAR BALASUBRAMANYAM

CEO & MANAGING DIRECTOR

Freyssinet Menard India
Bangalore
freyssinet.com

A construction technology expert holding 20+ years of experience in building and managing high-performance sales & marketing teams, operations & project management, and developing creative business go-to-market strategies in multinational corporations

JAYANTA BASU

MANAGING DIRECTOR

ITD Cementation India
Mumbai
itdcem.co.in

An incredible leader working in the construction industry and paving pathways to strong foundational buildings with experience spans from the grassroots level to overseeing the operations of the entire company

K. SATYANARAYANA

MANAGING DIRECTOR

Starworth Infrastructure and Construction
Bangalore
starworthinfra.com

A civil Engineer with three and half decades of successful track record and construction experience in completing complex projects as well as establishing business units

MANAN SHAH

MANAGING DIRECTOR

Man Infraconstruction
Mumbai
micl.com

An experienced executive director with a demonstrated history of working in the real estate industry skilled in construction, real estate development, strategic planning, business development and business strategy

RAMNEEK SEHGAL

MANAGING DIRECTOR

Ceigall
Ludhiana
ceigall.com

An industry veteran having experience in construction industry encompassing roads, flyovers, rail infrastructure, steel bridges, tunneling, bridges, and more with a nationwide presence and continuous evolution in the field of infrastructure development

VIVEK NARAYAN NAIDU

FOUNDER & MANAGING DIRECTOR

Chargeinfra
Bangalore
chargeinfra.in

A professional leader with expertise in key sectors - infrastructure, architecture, interiors, liaisoning services, turnkey solutions and project management

being set up for 5G-enabled application development. And that too for intelligent transport system. What else do you require? So right from the intent to the actions that the government has been taking, I see a positive move towards ensuring that India becomes extremely competitive and infrastructure plays the core part of it.

4. What are the kinds of impacts delivered through green initiatives in the industry so far?

There is a major thrust for EVs in the industry. The biggest players are introducing EVs in their warehouse premises for internal transportations and. The industry as a whole is also trying to incorporate solar-enabled solutions but the work is still in progress. While the leading logistics players are also focusing on E-waste management and water recycling, the companies are getting new modern offices that are LEED certified.

This way, they use maximum sunlight and reduce the amount of electricity consumption.

The industry is trying very hard to incorporate Electric Vehicles and solar-enabled solutions but honestly, we have a long path to tread on that lines.

5. What are your anticipations about future changes in the market?

Two things come to my mind- Greater use of data and analytics. Logistics industry generates humongous amounts of data, which ideally can be used to improve the efficiency, overall optimization, and predict demand. Companies are increasing the use of automation and robotics because as you move across the supply chain and workforce, manpower is getting expensive and things are getting repetitive in nature.


Next is the increased adoption of block chain. This is still in its nascent stage but has the potential to revolutionize the entire logistics industry. By ensuring greater transparency, greater security can be achieved which brings in a lot of efficiency in the supply chain. We will be coming across quite a lot of advancements in the block chain technology in the future. Logistics industry has got no choice but to focus more on sustainability part. This industry is under tremendous pressure to reduce its environmental impact. And more so also happening because customers, regulators are demanding more sustainable practice, which is a good thing to happen. This will lead to adoption of green, alternative fuels at least for the transport that is road-borne. This will become a global trend and India is set to follow.

Another anticipation that is set to change the future is demand warehousing. With e-commerce booming and deliveries going big, demand logistics or demand warehousing is set to pace up big time in the coming years.

Most importantly, the logistics industry should focus more on sustainability to reduce its environmental impact. Besides, customers and regulators are demanding more sustainable practices as well. This will result in the adoption of green, alternative fuels at least for the transport that is road-borne

6. What is your advice to upcoming leaders in this position while unlocking new Opportunities?

The foremost thing is, stay update with the industry trends. If you are not catching up with the industry trends and the way the industry is constantly evolving, it will get difficult to be at the right pace. Second is embracing technology. Even if you delay that process, you have got no choice here. So emerging leaders have to find solutions to the challenges and problems that are faced due to technology. This mindset needs to seep in continue to focus on your customer service, and stay connected to the ground. Listen to what your customers say. You won't be aware of the challenges that lay there unless you listen. This way, you can spin around to solve several problem statements that make a huge humongous impact on your business.

Another crucial aspect is building strong teams. If you really want to capitalize upon new opportunities or not, everything else can be replaced but teams cannot be. Show them the way to up skilling, show them the path to appreciation and work satisfaction. 



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RAJASHEKHAR VODELA

PIONEERING DESIGN-BUILD IN INDIA

RAJASHEKHAR VODELA
CEO & MANAGING DIRECTOR
NOVA DESIGN BUILD

An industry expert in Construction, Design-Build, and Property Development, Raj has extensive experience in the US and in India. He holds a Bachelor's in Civil Engineering from JNTU College of Engineering and a Masters in Structural Engineering from Arizona State University.



Nova Design Build has transformed into a turnkey construction company, providing exceptional specialized infrastructure across India

The construction industry in India is a significant contributor to the country's economic growth, generating employment opportunities and driving infrastructure development. The industry has witnessed substantial growth in recent years & Rajashekhar Vodela, the CEO of Nova Design Build and the founder of Ancon Constructions has played a crucial role in driving innovation and growth in the construction industry. Under his leadership, Nova Design Build has evolved into a turnkey construction company, delivering world-class specialized infrastructure in India. We recently engaged in a one-on-one interaction with Rajashekhar, let's hear from him.

Could you give a brief account of your professional background and experiences? What is the motivation that fuels your daily routines?

I have been fascinated with the act of building since my childhood. Being raised in a family of civil engineers gave me the chance to witness it firsthand. Consequently, I decided to pursue Civil Engineering at JNTU and a Master's degree in Structural Engineering at Arizona State University. I worked for Black and Veach in the United States for many years, gaining valuable experience and insights into the construction ecosystem. In the early 2000s, I had the option of continuing with them or starting my own business, and I chose the latter. I relocated to Hyderabad and founded Ancon which built a range of structures, from homes to India's first Public-Private Integrated Logistics Park.

As we constructed more projects, I discovered that there was a significant opportunity to provide our clients with greater quality, efficiency, and value by

streamlining procedures. This led to the creation of Nova. Over the last decade, we've utilized Design-Build techniques to create top-notch infra facilities in India.

My everyday motivation is straightforward - I enjoy finishing things! Whether it is completing an infra project, doing an audit, or a workout session, I show up and finish it.

You possess over two decades of experience. How has been your path to success? What are your success mantras?

For me, a significant change was recognizing that success goes beyond being a skilled builder. When I established Ancon in India, the construction industry had complicated processes. Having witnessed the power of planning and organizing an ecosystem to create a seamless building process in the US, I began focusing on delivering high-quality projects to clients within their specified timelines and budget by aligning people and processes toward a common goal.

Our Design-Build approach and efficient delivery model made us a strong contender in the market. As an instance, we accomplished the construction of a 65,000 sq. ft. facility for an oncology chain within 120 days, which showcases our capability to offer significant benefits to clients by saving them time and money and minimizing their building-related concerns.

I follow three key principles for success. First, start with the desired outcome and work backward, holding yourself accountable to the deliverables and timeline. This will help you find solutions. Second, build a business by generating new value, not solely by competing on price. Be open to possibilities that others would typically reject. Third, develop an organization of experts and utilize processes that allow you to accomplish things in innovative ways.

How would you define Nova Design Build as an organization and its current position in the market?

Nova Design Build has transformed into a turnkey construction company, providing exceptional specialized infrastructure across India. We have

constructed more than 50 state-of-the-art hospitals and specialized diagnostic and research laboratories. Drawing on our extensive experience in building modern hospitals, we offer clients access to industry best practices and innovative solutions for facility design, building, and management. Our in-house expertise and our willingness to partner with external architects, specialists, and technology teams, further strengthen our ability to deliver high-quality results. Now, we are expanding our expertise and services into developing specialized infrastructure for Pharma Manufacturing and Industrial Construction.

Going forward, what are the changes in market behavior that you anticipate and what are the opportunities that you foresee?

The construction industry must adapt to changes arising out of remote work and prepare for it, which will require reorienting spaces to meet these needs. There will likely be a shift towards developing many ancillary units with a few assembly facilities, which will necessitate significant changes in how we design, plan, build, and integrate technology. Additionally, construction is becoming increasingly global, requiring facilities to be compatible with global standards, quality, and sensibilities. India can seize the opportunity to meet or even exceed global standards by being agile and learning quickly to meet the expectations of the process, people, quality, and technology.

In light of your strong experience within the industry, what advice would you give to budding industry leaders?

To aspiring leaders, I believe that we can create world-class infrastructure in India by modernizing our approach to construction. We need to adopt global mindsets, sensitivities, and processes. We need to cross-learn from other industries to bring change.

Importantly, we need to motivate our people to take pride in their work. We must help them understand the value of their work. Only then will they be inspired to deliver to global standards and go beyond. That's the way to build something truly exceptional. [GEO](#)