

Center for Digital Transformation

UCI Paul Merage School of Business

Governance Council

Gajen Kandiah

Chief Executive Officer, Hitachi Vantara

Chief Transformation Officer, Hitachi Digital Systems & Services

President, Hitachi Digital

Gajen Kandiah became chief executive officer of Hitachi Vantara in July 2020. In this role, Gajen leads Hitachi Vantara's more than 12,000 employees with a focus on customer centricity, innovation to solve next-generation challenges, and digital transformation for its global customers and partners based on the company's digital infrastructure, software and services offerings and capabilities. Concurrently, he also serves as the chief transformation officer of Hitachi's Digital Systems & Services business as well as President of Hitachi Digital. In these roles, he is responsible for expanding and accelerating Hitachi's digital market leadership.

Prior to joining Hitachi Vantara, Gajen spent 15 years with Cognizant, most recently as President of the company's \$4B digital business, a role in which he led the acquisitions of Softvision, Netcentric, and Idea Couture. He drove a Cognizant-wide initiative to transform company capabilities and services into an integrated, industry- and customer-focused suite of offerings and solutions. During his time at Cognizant, he also built and led multiple businesses in different phases of growth and change – from start ups and emerging businesses to turnarounds and hypergrowth companies.

Prior to joining Cognizant, he co-founded NerveWire, Inc., a venture capital-backed management consulting and systems integration firm, which was later acquired by Wipro.