

Center for Digital Transformation

UCI Paul Merage School of Business

Governance Council

Gajen Kandiah

President & COO, Hitachi Digital

Chief Digital Transformation Officer, Hitachi, Ltd. Digital Systems and Solutions Division

Deputy General Manager, AI Transformation Division, Hitachi, Ltd.

Gajen is a proven thought leader in emerging technology (e.g. AI); a domain expert in digital transformation; and a trusted advisor to multinationals across industries.

At Hitachi, he brings nearly three decades of experience building and growing winning IT and digital businesses – from startups and emerging businesses to turnarounds.

Gajen is currently responsible for driving transformation and AI-led innovation across multiple Hitachi organizations in his roles as President and COO of Hitachi Digital, Chief Digital Transformation Officer for Hitachi's DSS division, and Deputy GM for Hitachi's AI Transformation division.

Prior to joining Hitachi in July 2020, he spent more than 15 years with Cognizant in a variety of leadership roles. During his tenure, he led eight businesses through hypergrowth over short time spans – from systems integration and business process outsourcing (BPO) to testing and digital engineering, demonstrating his ability to leverage technology disruptions and market opportunities and requirements to rapidly deliver significant results.

Before joining Cognizant, Gajen co-founded NerveWire, Inc., a management consulting and systems integration firm, which was later acquired by Wipro.

Gajen serves on the board for several organizations, including Hitachi Digital Services and Hitachi Rail, in addition to Hitachi Cyber.