



# INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY KANPUR

## Distinguished Alumnus Award

### Arvind Pradhan

Mr. Arvind Pradhan obtained his B. Tech. degree in Mechanical Engineering from IIT Kanpur in 1974. After serving for some time, he left Coopers & Lybrand in July 1991 to start his own management consulting firm named APCC, Inc. to provide manufacturing strategy solutions. The firm provided services to global clients, like Timken, Scott Fetzer, etc.

In 1996, he acquired a small automotive supplier of headrest structures in Ohio with annual sales of US\$5.0 million. Realizing the significant growth potential within this business, he revamped the business introducing new products and expanded customer base. Through his engineering prowess and business acumen, he expanded his product line to other automotive interior products like armrests and seat frames. In 1998, he broke ground for a new 60,000 sqft facility in Ohio, solely dedicated to seat frames. In 1999, Mr. Pradhan setup a Joint Venture with Magna International, acquiring multiple manufacturing facilities within USA to build the largest independent supplier of seat systems in North America with annual sales exceeding US\$ 100 million. Since then, he has transformed the company into a global powerhouse, with manufacturing facilities and technical centres strategically located in all major markets, to design, develop, test, validate and manufacture seat systems globally to automotive clients with stringent safety requirements.

The company at present has 12 facilities worldwide, with over one million sqft of manufacturing space under roof, employing over 2,000 personnel, with current sales exceeding US\$ 500 million.

The company is acutely aware of its responsibility for the welfare of the society, and is seriously active in community support and educational initiatives in every township that it operates. Mr Pradhan is a major donor to the Michigan Bharatiya Temple, Ekal Vidyalaya (for child education in the poor and remote townships in India), Lorain and Columbus Technical Centres (to develop applied skills in the youths) and many other charitable causes.

Mr. Arvind Pradhan is conferred upon the Distinguished Alumnus Award – 2016 of Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur for his outstanding enterprising skills and social service.