## Integrity plus commitment plus innovation leads to excellence

A hands-on young entrepreneur with multi-sector experience, Malav Dani brings a distinct brand of creative and passionate entrepreneurial leadership to the Hitech Group, a diversified Indian conglomerate headquartered in Mumbai. A spirit of continuous learning and application led him to acquire a world-class education in management techniques in the United States, earning a B.S (Bachelor of Science) at Purdue University and an MBA (Masters of Business Administration) from Columbia University, his education was followed by a highly successful six-year stint at General Electric (GE).



Management of change and risk comes naturally to Malav. His education in the US exposed him to cutting-edge thought

leadership and an international, competitive environment in which he ideated and thrived. It is here that he truly learned to appreciate the value of innovation. "Innovation starts with thought leadership, then processes, then products," says Malav. He has blended the best of both, the Western and the Indian philosophy into the DNA of the employees of the group, where everyone is empowered to take decisions with wholehearted support of colleagues and management.

While working for GE, he completed the Information Management Leadership Program (IMLP) & the Quality Six Sigma Black Belt Program. He worked on several initiatives here, such as the CEO Cockpit, Mergers and Acquisitions, Audits and ERP implementation. One of his key projects with General Electric's Corporate Treasury department won the Alexander Hamilton Corporate Treasury Award, U.S.A.

After returning to India, Malav worked on customer centricity initiatives with Asian Paints Ltd. and later assumed positions of increasing responsibilities at the Hitech Group (www.hitechgroup.com), a business founded and nurtured by his father Ashwin S. Dani, the Chairman of the Group and also a Non- Executive Vice Chairman of Asian Paints Ltd. In 2012, Malav was appointed as the Managing Director of the Hitech Group. In addition to this, Malav is also a Non-Executive Director of Asian Paints Ltd & the Chairman of its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Committee.

Malav has spearheaded several committees of the Indian Merchants' Chamber to execute its vision. As a Chairman of Ease of Doing Business one of his major contributions was to present a roadmap to the Joint Parliamentary Standing Committee on Commerce of Rajya Sabha to improve India's ranking in Ease of Doing Business.

"Be aware, be equanimous" is what Malav wants to propagate to every being on the planet. A student of Vedanta, Malav has introduced the core philosophy of Advaita 'Universal Oneness' in the organization; a philosophy which is also reflected in its office culture and business practices. "Our enthusiasm for knowledge coupled with our thirst for knowledge is continuously evolving through a process of construction through destruction," says Malav, echoing the Bhagvad-Geeta, "Challenging ourselves is to break down the limiting barriers so that we may realize boundless success."

Malav is a recipient of the 'Yuva Icon Award' presented by Dr. A.P.J Abdul Kalam for displaying exemplary determination towards positively impacting the future of the nation. In addition to this, he has also received the 'Business Game Award' by NDTV Profit & British Trade Council, the 'Udyog Rattan Award' by Institute of Economic Studies & the 'Asia Pacific Entrepreneurship Award 2015, India' by Enterprise Asia. The group has won several accolades which includes India's Best Company of the year Award 2018 by Berkshire Media LLC, USA recognizing Hitech's positive contributions in terms of its creativity and innovation and having played a significant role in the growth of the Indian economy; the Asia Pacific Entrepreneurship Awards 2019 and a Certificate of Achievement in the Corporate Excellence category for demonstrating sustainable growth, responsible leadership and operational excellence; and the recent AsiaOne Young Asian Entrepreneur 2019-20, for being one of the most prominent Young Asian personalities globally who have made an indelible mark for other leaders to follow and generations to admire.

Malav believes in substance over paraphernalia – an attitude reminiscent of a remark by the renowned yoga exponent B.K.S Iyengar, who had a long-standing relationship with the Dani family: "Leave your ego at home, come here to learn."