

# Dean Athanassiades

Find Dean on LinkedIn [here](#).

**Current Position.** Dean Athanassiades work for Philips HealthTech, based in Atlanta GA, USA. He lead the North American implementation teams for Philips HealthTech's clinical informatics products. His official job is leading the delivery of project management services. However, the bulk of his time is spent leading initiatives that improve organizational effectiveness.

**Education and Senior Project.** Dean earned a Bachelor's degree in Industrial Engineering from Georgia Tech. He also earned a Masters degree in Business, and a Masters of Science degree in Industrial-Organizational Psychology, and a Masters Certificate in Lean Six Sigma. Dean is currently studying for his Doctorate in organizational change.

**Healthcare Experience.** Dean has worked for Philips HealthTech and its predecessor companies for many years gaining experience in organizational improvement, change leadership, operations, project management, technical consulting, client support, and sales. He has worked in healthcare for about 25 years.

**Path into Healthcare.** Dean first became acquainted with the healthcare industry through his college senior design project that focused on improving workflow and patient experience in an emergency department. Then, in the late 1980s, his employer asked him a to take on a sales assignment managing the company's relationship with a well-known hospital information systems company. Dean seized the opportunity to learn everything he could about his customer's industry – healthcare – by becoming involved in professional organizations like the Society for Health Systems (SHS).

**Daily Toolkit.** Dean's toolkit incorporates tools at the intersection of industrial engineering (Lean and Six Sigma) and industrial-organizational psychology (organizational culture, group behavior, team building, organizational change). It is important to

note that one of the pioneers in industrial engineering, Lillian Gilbreth, was also one of the pioneers in industrial-organizational psychology.

**SHS Experience.** Dean has been a member of SHS since the early 1990s. He has served on the SHS Board of Directors, Annual Conference Chair, Conference Track Chair, Conference Session Moderator, Conference Paper Reviewer, Conference Speaker, and Diplomate. He belongs to SHS because he believes that the Society provides benefits that far exceed the costs. In particular, the annual Healthcare Systems Process Improvement Conference provides him with the opportunity to network with kindred spirits that share his passion for improving organizations. The 2015 conference was a favorite because the Society created a program that attracted record attendance. Besides SHS, Dean is an active participant in the Healthcare Information Management and Systems Society.

**Recognition.** Dean has been very fortunate to earn recognition for his contribution including the SHS/HIMSS Excellence in Healthcare Management/Process Improvement Award, HIMSS Distinguished Fellow Award, and the HIMSS Leadership Award.

**Free Time!** Dean and his family enjoy spending leisure time on Southwest Florida beaches. He grew up in Atlanta GA. You can find him enjoying distance running (10Ks, half-marathons, marathons) and serving as a USA Swimming meet official.

**Improving Organizations.** Dean is passionate about his work in improving organizations in healthcare because this enables me to make a meaningful difference in the world. Dean's long-term plan is to become better at helping organizations improve.

**Intern Opportunities.** Dean's company employs interns on an occasional basis, especially during the summer. To investigate internship opportunities, <http://philips.avature.net/talent> and join the Philips Campus Talent. Community.

