

# SSN-CARE

Cherishing Alumni Relationship and Engagement

## Reunion of Batch 1998-2002

Naren Mohana Sundram writes on Reunion meet...



SSN Institutions has always been closer to all our SSN Alumni hearts. SSN Batch of 2002 wanted to meet for the 20th year reunion and the process of identifying of all missing-in-action members started. This event was planned during Tribute, but vacation plans of team members coming from different countries finalized the date on August 6th, 2022.

Credit should go to Rajendra Kumar from 2002 ECE batch who came to Tribute and engaged with the folks to plan the reunion meet. To start with, the coordinators from each department were identified and glad the kick-off meeting happened between the coordinators. **The best part of SSN 2002 is all about three departments and 176 students.** Few of the batchmates formed as a core organizing team to arrange right from gathering the folks in the town, arranging the event agenda, coordinating with the teaching & non-teaching staff, arranging food, gifts, mementos and making a memorable event.



All the batch mates identification led to creating groups in social handles, bringing every single person one by one to the group with their family introductions and sharing the old stories along with the college days photos. It felt like yesterday and our friends took us down the memory lane with every story.

When the event was planned, our college administration was very supportive from Dr. Kala Vijayakumar, Dr. Annamalai, Dr. Sunita Nair and our Alumni Affairs office, Mr. Anandaraman and Mr. Sujith. We have invited all our teaching & non-teaching staff who made our college journey a terrific one. One person with whom our entire college journey travelled through was Dr. Kasthuri who was our Principal and Dean for SSN Institutions. Dr. Kasthuri Sir agreed immediately to join the event.



We had **56 members confirming their participation** and the Career Development Center was finalized as our location. The entire event was fun filled starting with the college bus ride taking us through the college tour and leading us to the Alumni Avenue. We had six tree plantations with each of the batch mates planting the trees in the Alumni Avenue. We had Dr. Kasthuri starting with his speech, followed by Dr. Sunita Nair, Dr. Sakthivel and Dr. Leo who came to the occasion and sharing their thoughts about the joy & their memories with our batch. We got an opportunity to share a memento and gift for our teaching & non-teaching staff. All our batch mates received a T-Shirt and a gift as well

After a good lunch buffet outside the CDC hall, we had Dr. Annamalai, Dr. Gayathri, Dr. Venugopal, Dr. Jawahar joining us after their Academic council. With their best wishes, batch mates went back to the hall to relive the memories with the pictures, videos and sharing stories during our prime days. So much fun like yesterday, we all went around the college classes and took lots of pictures. We went to our labs, canteen, sports complex, hang out spots and to the Tea Kadai. This Tea Kadai is not closer to the one in our batch years which saw all our celebrations and fun.

Post the event, it was just fun and a humbling day with your friends taking us to who we really are.

Thanks to our SSN Management team, President, Principal, Alumni Affairs office, our teaching & non-teaching staff, our horticulture department, Alumni Association members who joined the event, our administration team for all the logistics and finally our batch mates who made the day a momentous one. *[Images courtesy Mr.Rajendrakumar]*

## Alumni visits to campus

**Mr. Pragadeesh Chidambaram (2018 Batch, Department of Bio-Medical Engineering)** is working in **Medtronic, Medical Equipment Manufacturing company as Territory Manager**. His role is to work with surgeons and doctors and coordinate during the surgery for implanting life saving devices like pacemakers. He also supports doctors in fixing ventilators in critical care units. He received awards within the organization. He visited the department on 5<sup>th</sup> July 2022 and had discussion with the faculty members regarding possibilities of recruiting students as interns and employees.



**Mr. Srinivas Sivaraman (2015–2019 batch, Department of Chemical Engineering)** visited the department on 19<sup>th</sup> July 2022. He completed his Master's degree in Health Safety & Environment from the University of Petroleum and Energy Studies, Dehradun. Based on his expertise in chemical explosions and toxic release studies, **he received funding to pursue his Ph.D. in Safety Engineering** for Ammonia and Hydrogen Fuel Cell Applications through the UK EPSRC (Engineering & Physics Sciences Research Council) at Ulster University in collaboration with University of Nottingham, Loughborough University, and University of Birmingham. He interacted with the faculty members and shared his views on the opportunities available in his area of research. Also, he recollected his research experience in SSN and thanked all







On 18.07.2022, Ms. Harini (2000 -2004 batch, Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering), living in Michigan now and working as a data analytics architect in Rush industries visited college and interacted with Dr.S.Sakthivel Murugan, Associate Professor, ECE. She also visited the various facilities of the lab and the projects that are being carried out. She felt very happy with the progress and to visit the college and faculty after her graduation. The joy is double as she visited with her kids.

On 13.07.2022, Pranav Shankar and Mouliswar (2016-2020 batch, Department of Mechanical Engineering), visited the department and interacted with the faculties. Mouliswar is joining MS in Mechanical Engineering at University of Minnesota and Pranav is joining MS in Industrial Engineering at Pennsylvania State University.

## Alumni Startups

Mr.Pradeepkumaar (Batch 2008, Department of Electrical and Electronics Engineering), is the Founder and CEO of Stan Ventures and CEO of Neil Patel Digital India

Mr. Pradeepkumaar a.k.a prady who used to energize young minds and motivate the students in achieving their goal, shares his entrepreneurial journey and success story!

I started Stan Ventures in June 2009 with \$40 in my pocket to find the purpose of Life and need to come out of Boring Times. Forceful Curiosity to start a business, convinced my mind as nothing to lose in this Short Life. Stan Ventures is a Happiest independent digital agency with offices in Bangalore, Erode and Salem.

**We are not funded and never taken money from anyone.** We have built the company purely on brain power and patience. Having been in the digital industry for over a decade, we made exceptional IT and digital marketing services affordable to varied business domains. The IT, Mobile and Digital revolution gave us the energy to create a collaborative work culture and deliver services par excellence.

As we grew in value and numbers, we realized that we were deeply passionate in expanding as a team and setting up several physical work establishments. We found immense happiness in recruiting hundreds of people, building a happy work environment, and providing a contented life for everyone in the team. We profoundly understood our skills in travelling, negotiating, accounting, operations, market research and recruitment. Thus began our journey towards insourcing.

I have shared my wealth with many guys of Stan Ventures, and they are taking Stan Ventures forward by enhancing our client's business. The environment at Stan Ventures inspires everyone to become entrepreneurs. It is highly creative, energetic, and open. You have an open invite to visit our office and I bet you will love the energy and creativity brewing at Stan Ventures. Of course, our guys smile will inspire you lot.

#### **A few words of motivation:**

Focus on your innate talents or time flying useful habits which leads to desired path that you most wanted in your life.

I have travelled in same way with curiosity and excitement in me and then landed up developing 500+ people Digital company in 12 years without external funding.

The professors and guides from my department gave me the freedom and taught responsibility to own myself to self-explore.

SSN is where I explored my interests and found my strong passions.



**Nishanth Shah (2014-2018, Department of Mechanical Engineering),** is the executive director of THE HPPL.

I never planned on becoming an entrepreneur but now, I can't imagine doing anything else. This is my story.....

I strongly remember, when I was in my 9<sup>th</sup> grade, that is when my dad for the first time took me to his factory, and that's where my journey began. The company, which I am heading right now is into Printing and Packaging. **We are having factories in 3 locations in Chennai and are in the process of opening our fourth,** which will be our most biggest and the most modern of all our factories. We cater to companies like Hatsun Agro, Oral B, Bosch Power Tools etc. Right now, our vision is to become the best packaging company in South India, which I am very much on track ,on.

I did my schooling in Union Christian School and then did my Mechanical Engineering in SSN following which I completed by Diploma in Printing Technology in Germany. Currently I am pursuing my MBA in Great Lakes Institute of Management.

During my college days, I regularly used to visit my factory. In 2019 when I completed by Diploma in Printing Technology and came back to India, is when I joined my company.

The company was started by my dad in the year 1995 with just 5 employees and just a small 2500 sq feet. In 2011, we had some major expansions where we increased our production and turnover drastically.

Now in the year 2022, we are stronger than ever, employing more than 150 employees and having factories in multiple location. Our new factory is going to open soon which will be our biggest and the most modern factory of all our factories which is going to cater to the increasing demands in Packaging.

It really used to excite me a lot to be able to experience and see how machines work and how a manufacturing industry works from Sales order, to procuring of raw material to converting this into finished product via various processes, the challenges that we face for achieving the required quality norms and production targets, to interacting with people from various streams and cultures, to be able to earn profits and multiply them with various new ideas, cost cutting ideas and expansions. Covid turned out to be a very unique situation that we had never faced before but we came out much stronger from this.

Every day is a new challenge, and that thrill really excites me. Meeting my customers who are CEO and CFOs of big companies really gives me a lot of learning and at the same time facing difficulties in my companies helps me to grow further.

This has been my journey so far.



**Venkatesh Sakamuri (2007-2011, Department of Computer Science Engineering), is the CEO of StayFlexi.**

Stayflexi is a Y Combinator-backed startup, offering an operating system for hotels and vacation rentals to automate operations and maximize revenues on unsold rooms and amenities.

**Venkat Sakamuri (SSN CS'11) started Stayflexi in Silicon Valley with his colleagues and friends,** Preetam Shetty and Sasank Talasila to address their problems as travelers. The three are computer science grads from Carnegie Mellon and Cornell.

In 2019, they took their MVP product to live with one property in San Francisco Bay Area, and since then, the adoption of Stayflexi has been massive despite all the COVID hurdles. Today, 1400 properties and 24000 rooms across 130 cities and 16 countries are running on the Stayflexi platform. Stayflexi has over 50 employees with offices in San Francisco and Bengaluru.

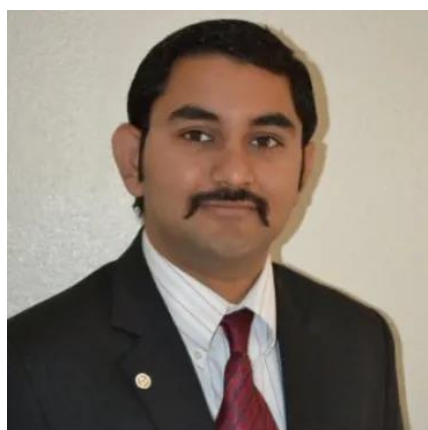
Stayflexi raised seed funding from top US-based VC firms including Y Combinator, the most prestigious VC firm and startup accelerator, which backed decacorns like Airbnb, Coinbase, Doordash, Razorpay, and many more.



**Lysiya Merlin S (ME. Communication Systems, Batch 2015-17, Department of ECE)** is the **Director of KARMER INDUSTRIAL AUTOMATION**. KARMER INDUSTRIAL AUTOMATION stepped into the world of MPI-NDT (Magnetic Particle Inspection – Non-Destructive Testing) and Automation in the year of 2019 and it's a successful run of 4<sup>th</sup> year for us with customer base all over in India. Our specialization of work covers Industrial UV (Ultraviolet) Lighting systems, Level III NDT Audit for MPI – NDT Machines, Customized UV Lightings for MPI and Robotic, Automation, Semi automation and System Integration works for Industries.

Our key customers are JSW (JINDAL STEEL WORKS), ICF (Integral Coach Factory, Indian Railways), SFL (Sundaram Fasteners Limited), MM Forgings Limited, Turbo Energy Limited, Samco Metals and Alloys, Minerva Aviation Services and Punch Ratna Fasteners. Within a short period Karmer has become one of the best suppliers in the field of MPI in India as we offer UVA light sources for MPI testing with world class standard. Our products are designed to meet ASTM (American Society for Testing and Materials) standard which offers protective and one stop solutions in industries. We consider customer satisfaction as the most momentous endeavour and offer standalone one stop solutions.

### Three ten Initiative Technologies



SSN Alumni – **Dr. Anand Govindarajan (2008 batch, Department of Chemical Engineering), and Dr. Upasana Manimegalai Sridhar (2009 batch, Department of Chemical Engineering 2009)** **co-founded a venture in 2016, Three Ten Initiative Technologies LLP (310i).**



Both the co-founders completed their PhD and spent few years working in the US at Optimized Gas Treating Inc. (Anand) and Covestro (Upasana) before returning to India to establish their venture. 310i gets its name in memory of the Engineering North Lab 310 at Oklahoma State



University where the founders shared a lab doing their PhD research with Prof. Russ Rhinehart, a global expert on process control and optimization.

310i's long term objective is to establish an engineering finishing school (EFS) centre, a first of its kind in India, to bridge the gap between academia and industry. The EFS, when established will house laboratories with pilot and industrial scale equipment, and provide classroom instruction, and rigorous project-based learning for 3-4 months after graduation. The EFS will improve the skills of engineering graduates, especially from core-engineering branches and making them more employable.

As a **boot-strapped venture of first-generation entrepreneurs**, 310i is generating financial resources towards the establishment of the EFS by offering various process engineering services and technologies. Presently based in Visakhapatnam, India 310i is a global provider of services including high fidelity digital tools for sulphur removal & gas processing – ProTreat®, SulphurPro®, and ProBot™, concept to deployment of process engineering software solutions, improving plant safety & profitability, pushing operating boundaries with APC & optimization, troubleshooting & debottlenecking using advanced simulation, complex systems modelling & data analysis; specialized technical conferences – SulGas™ (South Asia's only conference on gas treating and sulphur recovery) Distillation Experts Conclave™ (Bringing together global distillation expertise), and SAFETEMBER (Process safety & Risk Management).

310i also offers senior level training in process safety, controller performance monitoring, process loop tuning, distillation in practice, sulphur recovery (including TGTU), gas treating (amine, sour water stripping, and CO<sub>2</sub> removal); and young engineer training (under the SkillNXT Programs) in piping & instrumentation diagrams, building custom applications (Excel/VBA), process simulation basics, engineering economics, professional communication, and ethics.

310i is a training partner at the HPCL Skill Development Institute at Visakhapatnam, where they are running several livelihood-based technical and non-technical courses . More details about 310i are available at the website [www.the310i.com](http://www.the310i.com).

## Chit Chat Session with Alumni

The Department of Civil Engineering, conducted a Chit Chat Session with Alumnus P. Naveen Kumar (2011-2015 batch) on 29<sup>th</sup> July 2022.





## Events Conducted by Alumni

**Ms. Sangeeta Priyadarshini, Lead - Product Marketer, Zoho Corporation, MBA - Batch of 2009-11** delivered a talk on SaaS Marketing - An Overview. The talk focused on the interrelationship of SaaS marketing and its alignment with other functions such as Digital Marketing, Content Marketing, Social media Marketing, Brand Marketing, and public relations.



**Mr. Athi Narayanan, Manager-Operations, Maruti Suzuki India Ltd MBA - Batch of 2011-13** delivered a talk on Scope of MBA in Operations. He highlighted on the three important sub domains in Operations such as Procurement Logistics, Production Logistics and Sales & Distribution.



**On Aug 13, Mr. Varun, President and Mr. Ravi Shankar Shanmugam (Ravi Shan), Vice President, Alumni association,** joined us for an online discussion on Newsletter and gave several suggestions for improving the scope of the newsletter.

**Compiled by:** Dr. C. Arun Prakash, Faculty Alumni Co-ordinator/Assistant Professor [Mech]

**Distributed to**

- All Students [through Department Alumni Relationship Team-DART]
- Faculty [through Principal's Office] and
- Alumni [through Manager, Marketing and Alumni Relations]