

# Dr. Heidi Fagerholm

## President and CEO



Accomplished international senior executive in the field of Education business with extensive background in Research and Development as well as Business Development in a corporate environment. Ph.D in chemical engineering with expertise in chemical and process industries, inspiring team leader with special knowledge in innovation processes, R&D portfolio management and product commercialization.

### PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

**Oulu University of Applied Sciences Since 10/2020->**  
**President and CEO**

Leading multidisciplinary Oulu University of Applied Sciences with 6 Schools, 9500 students and staff of 450 persons. 80% of our business is education production and 20% R&D. The 6 schools are 1) School of Engineering and natural resources 2) School of Information technology 3) School of Social and health care 4) School of international business 5) School of Culture and Arts and 6) School of professional teaching.

**Merck KGaA, Performance Materials Division, Darmstadt, Germany 11/2017 – 07/2020**  
**SVP, Head of Early Research and Business Development**

Responsible for building up an R&D portfolio management system, alliance management (partnering), innovation processes, restructuring of the R&D teams, new business development for new products into new markets  
Leading a team of 165 persons  
Member of Leadership team of Performance Materials division of Merck KGaA  
**Vice President, Head of Advanced Technologies at Performance Materials division (11/17-03/18)**

**Kemira Oyj, Espoo, Finland 11/2010-10/2017**

**CTO Chief Technology Officer (ex. Executive Vice President, R&D and Technology) (01/11-10/17)**  
Corporate responsibility for Kemiras Research & Development (incl. technical customer support and Intellectual Property management) operations in Espoo Finland, Atlanta Georgia U.S.A. and Shanghai China with a team of ~250

Member of Management board of Kemira Oyj

**Vice President, R&D and Technology, Site Manager of Espoo R&D Center (11-12/17)**

**Ahlstrom Glassfibre Oy / Ahlstrom Building and Energy Business Area 09/2007-10/2010**

**Vice President, Product Development (01/09-10/10)**

From the beginning member of the Business Area Management Team  
Global coordination of Ahlstrom Glass and Industrial Nonwovens R&D functions (3 product lines, 8 plants) and leading a team of ~60  
Member of Ahlstrom Corporate Innovation Team (Innotech) in Pont-Evêque, France

**R&D / Innovation Director of Glass Nonwovens business area (09/07-12/08)**

**Ciba Specialty Chemicals Oy 04/2006 – 08/2007**

**Head of Technical Center TCE EMEA (Europe-Middle East-Africa)**

Coordination of the team of Technical Specialist Managers to provide technical customer service for the Business Line Paper of Ciba Specialty Chemicals

Participation in the European Sales Operations Planning

### LANGUAGES

**Swedish** - - - - -

**Finnish** - - - - -

**English** - - - - -

**German** - - -

### PUBLICATIONS

- 20 international publications in the field of materials, surface technology, i.e. glass fibres, adhesion, surface treatment, ceramic powders, corrosion and polymer technology and steel coatings

### INTERESTS

Sailing, classical music, downhill skiing

**Top Analytica Ltd. 06/2001-03/2006**

(Joint venture of Ciba, Ahlstrom, Metso Paper, KCL, several universities)

**Managing director**

Founding of the company, establishment of business operations, marketing and sales, customer relationships (metal, chemical and paper industry), human resources, national/international customer R&D projects

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**Turku Technology Centre Ltd. (later Top Analytica Ltd) 2000 – 05/2001****Director R&D Unit**

Business development and start-up of a commercial laboratory

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**Rautaruukki Steel, Strip Products 1998-2001****Project manager (R&D Associate)**

Coordination of EU projects and national R&D projects

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**Turku Technology Centre Ltd. Centre of Expertise of South West Finland 1994-2000****Project manager**

Coordination and administration of industrial R&D projects within field of surface technology, contract research for customer companies

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**Visiting scientist at University of South Australia.** Several periods in years **1990-91, 1994**

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**BOARD MEMBERSHIPS**

- 2019 – 2020** Member of Research and Innovation Council  
Advisory body chaired by the prime minister of Finland
- 2016-17** Chairman of the board of Tekes  
Tekes is Finnish funding Agency for Innovation (board member since 2011). Annual budget of 450 M€.
- 2015-2017** Board member of Eirma (European Industrial of Research Management Association)
- 2014-2017** Board member of Academy of Finland.  
Agency within the Finnish Ministry of Education, Science and Culture.
- 2009-2010** Board member of Top Analytica Ltd. Representative of Ahlstrom corp.

Member of Finnish Paper Engineers' Association since 2006 ->

**2003-2006** Finnish representative in the Technical Group "Surface finishing and coatings" (TGS 5) of Research fund for Coal and Steel. Project evaluation expertise at the European Commission during years 1998-2006 on several occasions (>15).

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**OTHER MEMBERSHIPS**

- 2018 ->** Member of Excellence Advisory Board at VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland
- 2017 -2021** Member of the Delegation of Åbo Akademi University foundation
- 1997 ->** Adjunct professor ("Materials Chemistry and Surface Characterization") at Åbo Akademi University Finland, Dept. of Physical Chemistry.
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**EDUCATION**

- 1998-2001** eMBA studies at Turku School of Economics and Business Administration (Finland)
- 1994** Ph.D. (Chemical engineering) Åbo Akademi University, Finland
- 1990** M.Sc. (Chem.Eng.) Åbo Akademi University, Finland

