

## Ashish Saraf

VP and Country Director – India, Thales



Ashish is the Vice President and Country Director for India at Thales. In his role, he leads all of Thales' business in India including defense, aerospace, transportation, digital identity and security, Thales' partnerships including joint ventures as well as engineering competence centers. He is responsible for the strategic growth of Thales in the country across all of its markets, further strengthening local teams, collaborations and innovation.

Prior to joining Thales, Ashish was the President and Head of Region for Airbus Helicopters - India and South Asia. In this role, he led Airbus Helicopters' Sales, Services, Training, Innovation, Industrial Partnerships and Government Relations functions across the Civil, Parapublic and Military markets in the region. At Airbus, Ashish was also the Vice-President and Make in India Officer responsible for Industrial Partnerships and offsets across all of Airbus' businesses (Helicopters, Commercial Airplanes and Defense & Space).

Prior to joining Airbus, Ashish headed the Tata–Sikorsky joint venture in Hyderabad and also worked with Deloitte Consulting and Dassault Systemes mainly in USA and Europe.

Ashish also served as a Board of Director and Member of the Governing Council for Aviation and Aerospace Sector Skill Council (AASSC), a Governmental body dedicated to developing nationwide skills in the aerospace domain in India.

Ashish holds various degrees in Management and Engineering from University of London, Cornell University, Symbiosis Institute and NIT India.

Ashish lives in Gurugram, India with his wife and two children and enjoys music, running marathons and golf.