

In recent years, D.J. Alwattar has served as Vice President of Northland Laboratories, an ISO 17025 accredited third party testing laboratory with headquarters in Northbrook, Illinois that provides food safety testing, consulting, chemistry testing and sensory research. In previous capacities at Northland Laboratories, Alwattar oversaw all aspects of operations in each department of expertise at Northland Laboratories.

With over 16 years of background in the food industry, he joined Northland Laboratories in 1995 starting out in Operations and quickly increasing responsibility in strategic development and executive management.

Throughout Northland Laboratories' growth, Alwattar's responsibilities grew and changed. In 2005 he assumed role of vice president of Northland Laboratories concentrating on shaping a corporate culture that allows individuals to flourish in their positions and empower them to provide the highest level of service possible to the company's clients. As the company grew in size, services, revenue and maturity, Alwattar recruited and hired the talent needed to sustain the company's traditionally high quality services for successful delivery in the rapidly changing marketplace.

In addition to dedication and achievements at Northland Laboratories, Alwattar is also committed to family and community. Alwattar and his wife, Maria, recently had a baby boy nine months ago and are enjoying every minute of being parents. Before becoming a parent, Alwattar has volunteered at the Children's Memorial Hospital and participating in competitive sailing.

Alwattar is an executive manager who empowers others to succeed. He hires talented and capable people, then provides the environment and motivation to help them excel. He is unquestionably a people-person who forms strong bonds and relationships in every area of commitment. Alwattar graduated from DePaul University with a B.S. in management and from Illinois Institute of Technology with an M.B.A.