



## Nidhi Turakhia

**Nidhi Turakhia** has a long history in the scrap business. By the time she was born her father was already brokering metal and plastic scrap. She received her first “hands on” experiences at the age of six when the family moved from New Orleans to Houston to partner in a new company, Ruby Metal Traders.

In high school Nidhi interned at a scrap metal company and learned numerous facets of logistics, accounting, and general administration. After high school she went to the University of Texas Austin and graduated in 2003 with a Bachelor of Arts in Economics and Spanish. Her intentions were to immediately attend law school with the goal of becoming a defense attorney or working for a legal aid program.

At Nidhi’s father’s request she instead agreed to work for one year to help start-up a new metal recycling company. The agreement made was, “If I didn’t enjoy it, I could go back to pursuing law school”. She never looked back and jumped in whole heartedly to first Titan Metals, and later to Allied Alloys.

Nidhi did go back to school, but this time studying for and receiving her MBA from Houston Baptist University, all the while working full time at Allied while absorbing knowledge of the recycling industry.

Over time as the Turakhia family’s interest in Allied Alloys grew so did Nidhi’s responsibilities. She helped navigate Allied Alloys through the 2008/2009 economic downturn and is now the executive vice president. Nidhi is accountable for Human Resources, Logistics, Projects, and Indirect Purchasing. Additionally, Nidhi trades metal with numerous countries around the world. She created an internship program at Allied Alloys and has changed the demographics of the company.

She began attending shows and conferences representing Allied Alloys to expand their network and in return was able to expand her own. She met a group of women that were part of the AWMI – Association of Women in the Metals Industries organization and was later invited to serve on the board which she accepted from 2012 until 2016.

In 2014 she was approached by the ISRI Gulf Coast Chapter (now a region) to become more involved and was named a presidential appointment for one year where she spearheaded PR, brought fresh ideas to the annual conventions such as conducting a golf clinic in conjunction with their annual golf tournament, helped increase their social media presence, raised the visibility of women and young professionals by generating new activities geared towards these groups. After the one-year term, she was elected as an officer for the board of directors of the Gulf Coast Region where she currently serves as the President.

Nidhi has also become much more involved on the ISRI National board and was instrumental in bringing back the Women in Recycling Council which she served on as a co-chair and co-founder. She also serves as

the co-chair for the education and training committee which oversees the youth outreach and workforce development sub-committees. Nidhi is also the co-chair of the council of chapter presidents and sits on the young executive council, membership committee, and government relations.

On the community outreach front, Nidhi is extremely involved in the non-profit organization Veerayatan International and is currently serves on the executive committee as the public relations/social chair for the youth. Veerayatan was founded by a woman who came from an extremely underprivileged background which attracted Nidhi. It is headquartered in India with the pillars being social development, education, and inner-self spirituality for under privileged children around the world. Since joining she has developed a once-a-year mission trip to India for young professionals and executives to give them the opportunity to volunteer and visit one of the many Veerayatan campuses. Nidhi also wrote and submitted the CNN heroes of the year nomination for the founder of this organization. She is actively involved in increasing their presence through social media, TV media, and local platforms.

In her local Houston community, Nidhi has organized numerous events from clothing and food drives, to hiring former substance users that are currently in rehab programs to former inmates.

Nidhi is also very passionate about encouraging the networking of women from all walks of life. She started an informal social for all women she knew in her area once a month and offers quarterly luncheons at her company's facility that are open to all employees, their families, and visitors.

Some things that Nidhi is actively working on are recruiting more women presenters for conferences, webinars, and meetings. She is also working on how we can expand educational curriculum to include more recycling-based classes and is accomplishing this through sponsoring the STEM program at a local high school. She is in the middle of building a program to recruit students from metallurgy curricula in schools/colleges. She is influential in putting together a formal Women in Recycling mentorship program and is working on its continuation. Nidhi just recently programmed and hosted a leadership development program for ISRI and is looking at how we can bring this back to local companies.

Nidhi's personal passions include reading, swimming, spending time with her loved ones, helping others and traveling.