



Kusum Kavia

President, Combustion Associates Inc.

Ms. Kusum Kavia is the entrepreneurial spirit behind CAI's success in domestic and especially in emerging markets of Sub-Saharan Africa that CAI targets. A dynamic leader, she has been instrumental in building the company from a humble start-up to a model woman-owned, minority business with a stellar reputation.

CAI provides cutting-edge engineering and advanced manufacturing solutions to the energy, process and environmental industries worldwide. It specializes in power generation systems that are cost-effective and energy-efficient as well as in skid-mounted automated process and environmental equipment. CAI's products are engineered, manufactured and tested at its facility in Corona, California.

Over the years, Ms. Kavia, and company co-founder Mukund Kavia, have significantly expanded CAI's exports to Africa delivering products and engineering services to several countries in the SSA region. (For details, see Point # 7). The Company has provided solutions to clients in the Benin, Nigeria, Ghana, Cameroon, U.S., Canada, Belize, China, Kazakhstan and Bangladesh.

Ms. Kavia is the head of sales at CAI. Under her extraordinary steering, CAI's exports to Africa have increased significantly to now account for more than 70 percent of the company's total sales. She has extensive knowledge of the process of exporting American goods to Africa that she has acquired through 25 years of experience.

CAI's export achievements have been widely recognized with numerous awards including the President's "E" and "E" Star awards. President Barack Obama himself singled-out Ms. Kavia's and CAI's export contribution to Africa at the U.S.- Africa Business Leaders Summit in 2014.

Ms. Kavia sits on the following boards:

- U.S. Export-Import Bank Advisory Board
- California Inland Empire District Export Council
- Riverside County Manufacturers and Exporters Council
- Founding Board Member, JOOF-USA, a non-profit, philanthropic Kenyan organization
- California State University, Business School – Advisory Board Member
- Norco College – Advisory Board Member