



MAHESH SAMAT

Managing Director Disney India

In his role as Managing Director, Mahesh Samat is responsible for setting and driving The Walt Disney Company's strategy in India and coordinating all business efforts in the market, including overseeing Disney global franchises in India, expanding existing businesses and creating new business opportunities. The Disney India business spans across broadcasting, movies, consumer products & licensing, interactive experiences & games, and Live Entertainment, through multiple brands such as Disney, UTV, bindass, Hungama, Marvel, Indiagames, Lucasfilm, Disney • Pixar and ABC. Mr. Samat's portfolio excludes the ESPN/Star Sports venture.

Mr. Samat manages all Disney businesses in India except the ESPN/Star Sports joint venture, with all local business segments reporting into him. Based in Mumbai, he reports directly to Andy Bird, Chairman of Walt Disney International.

Mr. Samat has had more than 25 years of experience in FMCG, Healthcare and Broadcasting across India, Asia-Pacific and Europe.

He returned to Disney India after four years with Epic Television Networks, where he was Founder and Managing Director of The Epic Channel, a popular Hindi entertainment channel (HD) focused on history, folklore and mythology-based content

Mr. Samat has previously worked with Johnson & Johnson, where he was Managing Director, Southern Europe, J&J Vision Care, based out of London. Prior to Johnson & Johnson, he worked for Kellogg's, where he was responsible for marketing, nutrition marketing and research for the company in India. He worked for Warner Lambert/Parke-Davis as Director of Consumer Health Products, and has also worked at Boots India Limited.

Mr. Samat holds a Bachelor of Commerce degree from Sydenham College and a Masters of Business Administration from the Indian Institute of Management.