



MAHESH SAMAT

Executive Vice President and Managing Director

The Walt Disney Company, South Asia

Mahesh Samat is Executive Vice President and Managing Director, The Walt Disney Company, South Asia. He is responsible for driving the Company's strategy, coordinating all business efforts in South Asia (India, Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, the Philippines and Vietnam), including overseeing Disney global franchises in the region, expanding existing businesses and creating new business opportunities (exempt from the ESPN/Star Sports joint venture in India).

Mr. Samat first started with the Company as Managing Director of The Walt Disney Company, India from 2008-2012, and returned to the role in November 2016. Since returning to the role, he has implemented vast organizational changes, creating a clear strategy for the Company and its brands in the Indian entertainment market. In September 2017, he expanded his role to include oversight of Disney's Southeast Asia business.

Prior to Disney, Mr. Samat was Managing Director at Johnson & Johnson, Southern Europe, J&J Vision Care, based out of London. Before that, he worked for Kellogg's, where he was responsible for marketing, nutrition marketing and research for the company in India. He also worked for Warner Lambert/Parke-Davis as Director of Consumer Health Products, and Boots India Limited. Mr. Samat has had over twenty-five years of experience in FMCG and Healthcare across India, Asia-Pacific and Europe.

He holds a Bachelor of Commerce degree from Sydenham College and a Masters of Business Administration from the Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Calcutta.