

Who's Who

Those you need to know in **Multinational Companies in China**

China remains the growth engine for the world's MNCs. It powers 70% of Qualcomm's revenue. Starbucks opens a new store in China every 15 hours. Even Google and Facebook, which are censored in China, make significant ad revenue here. And despite headwinds from U.S.-China tensions and competition from local firms, few companies are planning to leave.

The executives managing MNCs' China business are armed with western MBAs, local market knowledge and language skills. Over a third hold an MBA or a Ph.D. and half were born in Greater China. Nearly a quarter are women. And companies are betting on trusted insiders, with more than half of those on the list working for the firm for more than 15 years.



Isabel Ge Mahe 葛越
Managing Director Greater China, Apple

Ge Mahe was recruited by Apple's late CEO Steve Jobs in 2008 as VP, wireless technologies, before assuming her current role in 2017. She is a Starbucks board member and a former advisor to the Silicon Valley China Wireless Association. She holds numerous patents in wireless technology and before Apple, she was VP, wireless software engineering at Palm. Born in Shenyang, China, Ge Mahe moved to Vancouver as a teenager. She holds degrees in engineering from Simon Fraser University and an MBA from the University of California, Berkeley.



Sherry Carbary
President, China, Boeing

Carbary joined Boeing in 1989 as a senior financial analyst. She has since served as director of Boeing investor relations, VP of strategy for the commercial airplane business, president of flight services for commercial aviation services, and program manager for the 2nd Century Human Resources Initiative. She assumed her current role in 2019 and serves on the board of governors of the American Chamber of Commerce in China. Carbary holds bachelor's degrees in finance and economics from Eastern Washington University and an MBA from Seattle University.



Chen Qihua 陈其华
Chairman, China, Caterpillar

Chen joined Caterpillar in 1994 as the GM of Caterpillar's first Chinese manufacturing facility in Xuzhou. He worked in Illinois at Caterpillar's technology center from 1999-2003, led Caterpillar's acquisition of state-owned Shandong Engineering Machinery, and was appointed head of the China business in 2012. He serves on the board of Siwei, which Caterpillar acquired in 2012, and is an executive VP of two Chinese machinery industry associations. He is from Jiangsu province and has an MBA from the China Europe International Business School.



Vamsi Mohan Thati 闻笛
President, Greater China and Mongolia,
The Coca-Cola Company

Thati has worked for Coca-Cola for over 22 years, starting in India in 1998. Before he was appointed to his current role in September 2020, he was president of the South Pacific region. He has also served as the region director for Coca-Cola's bottling business in India and South Asia, as well as South-east Asia. He holds a bachelor's degree in electronics and communications engineering from Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University Hyderabad and an MBA from the Indian Institute of Management, Calcutta in India.



Chen Jialiang 陈嘉良
President, FedEx China

Chen joined FedEx in Hong Kong in 1985 after graduating with a history degree from the University of Hong Kong. He was promoted from local account director all the way through to the managing director of operations for Taiwan. He was appointed GM, China operations in 1998 and became President in 2003. He holds a joint MBA from Hong Kong University of Science and Technology and Northwestern's Kellogg School of Management and was born in Hong Kong.



Xiang Weiming 向伟明
President and CEO, General Electric China

Xiang joined GE in 1992, after seven years at AVIC, the state-owned Chinese aerospace conglomerate. He spent six years at GE Aviation's HQ in Cincinnati, led cooperation between GE and state-owned aerospace manufacturer COMAC, and held roles as GE's GM for aviation and for transportation in China. He has been president of GE Aviation in China since 2010 and was promoted to an additional role as president in 2020. He graduated from Northwestern Polytechnical University in China with a degree in aircraft engine design.

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Julian Blissett 柏历
President, China, General Motors

Blissett was appointed president of GM China in 2020. He previously served as senior VP for international operations and as an executive VP of GM's joint venture with state-owned SAIC Motor. Prior to joining GM in 1996, Blissett worked in the U.K. and Japan for Nissan Motor Manufacturing U.K. for eight years in manufacturing engineering and production leadership. Blissett, who is from the U.K., holds a bachelor's degree in engineering and business studies from Sheffield Hallam University.



Alain C. Bénichou
CEO, IBM Greater China Group

Bénichou was appointed as CEO, IBM Greater China Group in April 2019. Prior to his current role, he was GM of IBM enterprise and commercial, Global VP for IBM's strategic transformation projects, and the president of IBM France. He holds the rank of knight of the Légion d'Honneur from the French government and is a former president of the American Chamber of Commerce in France. He graduated from the French engineering university, Centrale Supélec.



Anna Pawlak-Kuliga
CEO & President, Ikea China

Pawlak-Kuliga has been CEO and chief sustainability officer of Ikea China since 2018. She joined the company in 2008 as a business navigation manager in the U.K. and became the CEO of Ikea Poland in 2016. She serves on the UN Global Compact Programme Council and previously was a member of Facebook's client advisory board (Poland). Prior to joining Ikea, she worked as the UK operations manager at Regus and the head of legal affairs at Pro-Market LTD in Poland. She holds a Master of Laws from Adam Mickiewicz University in Poland.



Ian Yang 杨旭
President, China, Intel

Yang joined Intel in 1986 as a co-op student while studying electrical engineering at Kettering University in Flint, Michigan. Upon returning to China, he developed Intel's PC OEM business in China and was promoted to co-GM of Intel APAC and VP, sales and marketing, Intel APAC in 2005. He has served as president of Intel China since 2009.



Rashid Qureshi 罗士德
Chairman and CEO, Greater China, Nestlé

Qureshi has worked for Nestlé for over 30 years. He joined Nestlé in his native Pakistan and held positions in Egypt, Australia, and Malaysia until he was appointed head of Nestlé in Vietnam and then Indonesia. He has held the chairman and CEO role since 2016. Qureshi received a bachelor's degree from Government College University and an MBA from the University of the Punjab in Pakistan.



Phyllis Cheung 张家茵
CEO, McDonalds China

Cheung became the CEO of McDonald's China in 2015. After joining the company in 2000, she served as chief marketing officer and managed McDonald's 2008 Olympics campaign. She was later promoted to managing director roles in Singapore, Malaysia, and Mainland China. Prior to joining McDonald's, she worked in international advertising. Cheung is also a council member of the China Soong Ching Ling Foundation. She earned her EMBA degree from the Chinese University of Hong Kong and a B.A. from the University of Hong Kong.



Hou Yang 侯阳
Chairman and CEO, Microsoft China

Hou will replace outgoing Microsoft China Chairman and CEO Alain Crozier in July this year. Hou worked for eight years with Qualcomm in China, most recently as their senior vice president for sales and business development. After graduating with a Ph.D. in electrical engineering from the University of Michigan, he spent five years working with McKinsey & Co in the U.S. He holds a bachelor's degree in physics from Peking University and is from Northeast China.



Angela Dong 董炜
Greater China GM, Nike

Dong has served as Global Vice President and GM, Greater China for Nike since 2015. She is also a member of the board of Barry Callebaut, a global chocolate manufacturer. She joined Nike China in 2005 as a finance controller and was promoted to various management roles in the finance division. Before joining Nike, Dong worked in several management positions at Coca-Cola, British American Tobacco and Procter & Gamble. She received a bachelor's degree in China and an MBA from Northwestern's Kellogg School of Management.

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Wern-Yuen Tan
CEO, APAC, PepsiCo

Tan joined PepsiCo in 2020 after serving as president and CEO of Walmart China and managing director of McDonald's Taiwan. Prior to this, he was a principal at Boston Consulting Group and started his career in the Singapore police force. He serves on the Singapore Economic Development Board and is Vice Chairman of the China Chain Store and Franchise Association. He received a bachelor's degree in economics and management from Oxford and a master's in finance from the University of Cambridge.



Dr. Andreas Penk
President, China, Pfizer

Penk is a longtime Pfizer executive, having joined the company in 1994. Previously, he has served as president of oncology for international developed markets, president of oncology for Europe, Africa and the Middle East, and country manager in Austria and Germany. He was appointed to his current role in 2019. Penk is a trained physician and received a medical degree from Leipzig University.



Matthew Price 马睿思
President, China, Procter & Gamble

Price has served as president since January 2015. He joined P&G in the U.K. in 1987 as a brand manager and has since held various marketing and general management roles in Greece, Germany, Romania, Russia, and Switzerland. Prior to his current position, Price was VP for baby care for Europe, Middle East, Africa, and India. He was born in the U.K., holds a bachelor's degree in economics from York University, and is currently based in Guangzhou.



Frank Meng 孟樸
Chairman, Qualcomm China

Meng was appointed chairman in 2015 after serving as the president of 21Vianet, a Chinese data center service provider. Prior to this, he was the president of Motorola's mobile device business in Greater China and president, Qualcomm China from 2008-2010. He has spent over 30 years in the telecommunications industry, including eight at Qualcomm. He holds a bachelor's degree in microwave and fiber optic communications from Beijing University of Posts and Telecommunications, and a master's degree in electrical engineering from the Polytechnic University of New York.



Belinda Wong 王静瑛
CEO and Chairman, Starbucks China

Wong has served as CEO since 2016 and as chairman since 2019. She is an independent non-executive director of Hysan, a Hong Kong real estate company, and Television Broadcasts Limited (TVB), a Hong Kong broadcasting company. Previously, she was president of Starbucks China, GM for Starbucks in Hong Kong, and managing director in Singapore. Before joining Starbucks in 2000, Wong was a marketing manager at McDonald's China. She grew up in Hong Kong and the U.S. and holds a finance degree from The University of British Columbia.



Dr. Stephan Wöllenstein
CEO, China, Volkswagen

Wöllenstein has worked for Volkswagen since 1995. He was formerly the executive director of sales & marketing and the deputy managing director for Volkswagen's China joint venture with SAIC. He then worked as executive director of business development and product management in Germany, before returning to China to head another Volkswagen joint venture with FAW Group. Prior to assuming his current role in 2019, he was CEO of Volkswagen passenger cars brand for China. He has a Ph.D. in business administration from The University of Münster.



Christina Zhu 朱晓静
President and CEO, Walmart China

Zhu joined Walmart in 2020 and is a board member at Dada Group, a Chinese retail delivery company that listed on the Nasdaq in 2020. Previously, Zhu was the president of Fonterra Greater China, a New Zealand-based dairy group, and held various leadership roles with Honeywell and McKinsey & Co. She holds an MBA from Columbia Business School and a B.A. in western studies from Beijing Foreign Studies University.



Luke Kang 姜燮可
President, Asia Pacific,
Walt Disney International

Kang was promoted to president, Disney Asia Pacific in December 2020. Most recently, he served as executive VP and managing director for Disney in Greater China, Japan, and Korea. He first joined Disney in 2011 as managing director for South Korea. Prior to Disney, he worked with Viacom/MTV Networks in Asia Pacific, Monitor Group, the Korean government, and startups in Silicon Valley and Asia. Kang holds an M.S. degree in management from Stanford University Graduate School of Business, and a B.A. from the University of Michigan.

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