



Niranjan Kirloskar

INTERVIEWS POPULAR

## Driving India's Manufacturing Future Through Innovation in Filtration

29 June 2026/Machine Edge Global



Behind every high-performing engine and industrial machine lies a critical yet often overlooked technology—filtration. Over the past three decades, Fleetguard Filters Private Limited (FFPL) has established itself as one of India's leading filtration solutions providers, serving sectors ranging from automotive and construction to mining, agriculture, and power generation. Under the leadership of **Niranjan Kirloskar, Managing Director**, the company has combined engineering excellence, indigenous innovation, and a strong manufacturing footprint to deliver world-class solutions while preparing for the future of electric mobility and sustainable manufacturing. In this exclusive interview with Machine Edge Global, Kirloskar reflects on FFPL's remarkable journey, the evolving role of filtration, the importance of innovation, and how the company is shaping the next generation of manufacturing excellence.

**Fleetguard Filters has grown into one of India's leading filtration solutions providers over the last three decades. How would you describe this journey, and what have been the defining milestones for the company?**

**Fleetguard Filters has grown into one of India's leading filtration solutions providers over the last three decades. How would you describe this journey, and what have been the defining milestones for the company?**

Fleetguard Filters' journey has been built on trust, technology, and consistency. Over the last three decades, we have evolved from being a filtration manufacturer to becoming a comprehensive filtration solutions provider for mobility, industrial, and infrastructure sectors. Key milestones include expanding our manufacturing footprint across India, building strong OEM partnerships, strengthening our aftermarket presence, investing in R&D and patents, and continuously upgrading our product portfolio to meet changing emission, performance, and sustainability needs.

**With manufacturing facilities across Pune, Hosur, Sitarganj, Dharwad, and Jamshedpur, how has FFPL built a strong pan-India manufacturing footprint while maintaining quality and efficiency?**

Our manufacturing network across Pune, Hosur, Sitarganj, Dharwad, and Jamshedpur allows us to stay close to customers, OEMs, and key markets. Standardized processes, strong quality systems, automation, trained teams, and continuous improvement practices help us maintain consistency across locations. This footprint also improves responsiveness, supply reliability, and operational efficiency.

**Fleetguard plays a crucial role in sectors such as automotive, construction, agriculture, mining, and power generation. How do you ensure your solutions remain relevant across such diverse industries?**

Each industry has different operating conditions, contamination challenges, and performance expectations. We work closely with customers, OEMs, field teams, and application experts to understand these needs. Our solutions are designed and validated for specific applications, whether it is commercial vehicles, tractors, construction equipment, mining machines, gensets, or industrial systems.

**As the mobility sector shifts toward electric vehicles and alternate fuel engines, how is FFPL preparing itself for this transformation through advanced filtration solutions?**

FFPL is actively preparing for the shift toward electric mobility and alternate fuels by expanding its technology focus beyond conventional engine filtration. We are exploring advanced filtration and fluid management solutions for new-age mobility, thermal management, fuel cell applications, battery cooling systems, and cleaner fuel platforms. The goal is to remain relevant as powertrain technologies evolve.

**Filtration may often be seen as a backend technology, but it is critical to engine performance and sustainability. How do you see the role of filtration evolving in the next decade?**

Filtration will become even more critical as engines, equipment, and systems become more advanced and emission norms become stricter. It will play a larger role in improving efficiency, reducing downtime, extending component life, supporting sustainability, and protecting high-value systems. Filtration will move from being a backend component to a strategic performance enabler.

**FFPL works closely with major OEMs such as Tata Motors, Ashok Leyland, and Cummins. What are the expectations of today's OEMs, and how is your company meeting those demands?**

Today's OEMs expect high-quality products, consistent performance, faster development cycles, cost competitiveness, supply reliability, localization, and strong technical support. FFPL meets these expectations through robust engineering, application knowledge, validation capabilities, quality systems, and close collaboration from design to delivery.

**With multiple patents and a strong R&D backbone, how important is indigenous innovation for India's manufacturing competitiveness?**

Indigenous innovation is extremely important for India's manufacturing competitiveness. It helps reduce dependency, improves localization, supports faster customization, and creates solutions designed for Indian operating conditions. Our patents and R&D efforts reflect our belief that Indian manufacturing must not only produce at scale but also innovate at scale.

**Sustainability is becoming central to manufacturing today. How is FFPL integrating practices such as ISO 14001, IATF 16949, and Theory of Constraints (TOC) principles into everyday operations?**

Sustainability is integrated into our daily operations through environmental management practices, quality systems, resource optimization, waste reduction, and continuous improvement. Standards such as ISO 14001 and IATF 16949 provide a strong framework, while TOC principles help us improve flow, remove bottlenecks, enhance productivity, and create more efficient operations.

**Manufacturing leadership often requires balancing technology with people management. How do you approach building teams and nurturing talent within the organisation?**

Technology can deliver results only when people are aligned, skilled, and empowered. We focus on building ownership, encouraging problem-solving, developing technical capabilities, and creating cross-functional collaboration. Talent development, shopfloor engagement, leadership grooming, and a culture of continuous learning are central to how we build future-ready teams.

Tags: [Fleetguard Filters](#), [Interview](#), [Niranjan Kirloskar](#)