



## **Akash Saxena**

*Chief Technology Officer - JioStar*

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Akash Saxena serves as the Chief Technology Officer at JioStar, leading the end-to-end technology strategy for JioHotstar, the network's flagship streaming platform. With over 25 years of experience in product engineering, infrastructure, and digital streaming, he defines the technical vision, ensuring scalability, resilience, and performance.

Under his leadership, JioHotstar has integrated cutting-edge technologies to build a scalable, robust infrastructure, delivering personalized, seamless user experiences at scale. His strategic approach blends engineering excellence with forward-thinking innovation, ensuring the platform meets current needs while preparing for future growth.

Akash joined as Chief Technology and Product Officer at JioCinema, where he led a comprehensive platform transformation that achieved a record-breaking 32 million concurrent viewers during Indian Premier League cricket broadcasts. Prior to JioCinema, Akash held the position of Chief Technical Officer at Disney+Hotstar, where his technical innovations helped the platform set global video streaming concurrency records on three separate occasions. Under his stewardship, Disney+ built India's largest video subscription service, amassing more than 50 million paying subscribers in the country alone. His team also successfully expanded the Hotstar platform to support Disney+ operations across Southeast Asia, the Middle East, and South Africa.

Throughout his career, Akash has held senior leadership positions at various technology companies, participating in both an initial public offering and several acquisition cycles. Beyond his contributions to India's digital streaming landscape, he has established himself as a product leader, developing solutions across diverse sectors from enterprise systems to direct-to-consumer platforms.

A dedicated advocate for entrepreneurship, Akash has founded a startup of his own and remains active as an angel investor and advisor to multiple emerging companies. He holds a Master of Science in Computer Science from Arizona State University and a Bachelor's degree from Government College of Engineering, Pune.