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| **Matthew A. Shirk**  Lebanon, PA  (717) 222-0526  matthewashirk@gmail.com | | | | | | |
| Summary | | | | | | |
|  | Mr. Shirk is a senior-level IT professional, with 20+ years of experience. 12 years of his experience has been in top-tier consulting. His areas of expertise are in the strategic technological direction and development, early risk identification, project management and solution architecture for data warehousing and analytics.  Transforming data into useful information is more than a technical implementation; it begins with people—Matt’s approach to developing information strategies begins with the need of information consumers, working back to the sources and the enabling technologies. With roots as a developer, Matt applies a hands-on approach to developing and delivering strategies that include reporting solutions for the business’s functional areas while enabling analytics and discovery across the enterprise. Transitioning into a leadership role, his delivery includes the change management activities required to ensure the organization’s acceptance.  His leadership, functional and technical roles includes industry and consulting work in the following roles: Sales Engineer, Delivery Leader, Account Manager, Program Manager, Delivery and Deployment Manager, Team Leader, Lead Consultant, and Business Analyst. He has worked on over 12 ERP engagements with global private sector and public sector clients. His broad experience in consumer products, insurance, manufacturing, automotive, financial services, utilities, and government have given him a solid understanding of the common and unique business processes, implementation methodologies and the sales cycle.  Additionally, Mr. Shirk proudly served in the US Navy for 4+ years, where he deployed twice on the USS Leyte Gulf (CG-55), serving as the Assistant Navigator. | | | | | |
| Experience | | | | | | |
|  | | Information Architect | Jan2018 - Current | | | |
|  | | * Mr. Shirk’s responsibilities including managing the day-to-day operations of the SAP BW landscape at Armstrong Flooring and the team of both off shore and on shore resources. This includes administration, ETL (Process Chain) monitoring, system upgrades and maintenance, and functional enhancements. * He designed, modelled and developed an enterprise data lake to enable and consolidate analytical narratives. This effort offered major improvements in reporting by controlling key measures at an enterprise level and identified many master data improvement opportunities. * Utilizing his consulting experiences and industry trends, Matt developed a comprehensive strategy for reporting and analytics to facilitate the transition from an aging SAP BW and newly established data lake into a state-of-art solution for its people, processes and technologies. This strategy drilled into and defined the tactical topics and operational implementation activities to ensure continuity of service, address change management, workflow, and upgrade from BW 7.4 to BW4/HANA and transitioning the EDL to a cloud-based solution. | | | | |
|  | | Manager of Data Analytics | Jul2016 – Jan2018 | | | |
|  | | * In 2014, Matt took a sabbatical from program and project management to focus on the needs of his family. To transition back into industry, he accepted a position at the PA Turnpike Commission’s IT Department, where he conceived, chartered, then road mapped and executed the Commission’s Geospatial and Data Analytics Program. This program successfully implemented an agile methodology in a public sector environment and scaled to handle the mass influx of big data associated with new industry collaborations and smart transportation initiatives. Carefully considering the common pitfall of silo’ed data, he designed and built a Data Lake style EDW, sourcing multiple internal and external sources (via API) that are visualized with the Qlik Suite and an outbound API. | | | | |
|  | | Consulting Senior Manager | Jan2011 – Mar2014 | | | |
|  | | * In an effort to standardize and homogenize delivery across Business Intelligence implementations in North America, Mr. Shirk was tasked with developing and deploying the solution. The initial solution consisted of a RUP-based toolkit that included start-up guides, and indexed task items with detailed instruction and deliverable templates. Deployment and enforcement consisted of the training of 200 staff and a Ramp-Up Assistance Program- on site assistance of the Inception phase of new projects. The open infrastructure of the toolkit allowed a RUP-based Agile solution to be included. Matt broke out the various portions of a proper RUP implementation and developed a plug-n-play solution, scalable to all projects sizes. During this time, he also spent extensive time studying SCRUM theories. * Unilever created the largest data warehouse in the world. The total build included a comprehensive global reporting system for all aspects of Unilever operations, across 5 continents. Matt was the first consultant to land in North America and served as the initial Delivery Manager for the program. His program contributions were to hire and on-board the global operational staff across 3 continents and establish the project management template to be used for the duration of the 5 year program. As the Release I Delivery Manager, his role was to manage the implementation of the APO and DP transactional data and the entire programs master data needs, from requirements gathering through go-live. Various technologies were used, including Teradata and MS-BI. * While serving as the project manager on a BusinessObjects 4.0 Ramp-up project, Mr. Shirk laid the foundation for chartering the client into its new reporting toolset, with cutting edge SAP technologies. His experience working in all aspects of development and deployment of reporting solutions, allowed him to author the organization’s reporting governance charter, change control approach and roadmap. As the architect, Mr. Shirk determined the landscape, security and user access approaches. And, in preparation for the projects execution, he completed the initial stages of the project preparation phase of the implementation by developing the staffing plan, organizational chart, and a detailed project plan. | | | | |
|  | | Consulting Principal | | | May2008 – Jan2011 | |
|  | | * Mr. Shirk was recruited by the Program Director as a Trusted Advisor and Engagement Manager for a full suite of a new SAP BW/ Business Objects implementation. The client was migrating from R/3 4.7 to ECC 6.0 and planned replace its fully custom Oracle/Cognos data warehouse. Working closely with client-side senior management, he developed a winning implementation plan, including all Enterprise Reporting Charter documents. His plan included four phase transition and implement to ensure the success of the technical solution and end user acceptance as well as the appropriate staffing plan to execute. Mr. Shirk stayed with the project to assist with project preparation, staffing, and as a Solution Architect through its two go-lives. * Mr. Shirk was the Project Manager on a full life cycle SAP BW implementation at one the largest global primary and reinsurance companies. He provided a solution with analytical capabilities that allowed users to monitor and assess program and single risk profitability for specialty market pricing actuaries, underwriters, and program managers. The solution objective was to provide easy access to critical information used for pricing and monitoring of Program and Single Risk business, in an environment where Historical Profitability and pricing assumptions (including loss development and expense factors) persisted. * Mr. Shirk served as the North American Consulting Lead responsible for the delivery of the SAP FI, MM, and APO modules, sourcing development, reporting, and BI training. He played a key role in standardizing and integrating business processes with other functional teams. He successfully managed his team of consultants and clients through fit/gap analysis, realization, integration and user acceptance testing, end user training, go-live and support, resulting in a successful, on time completion. | | | | |
|  | | Consulting Manager | | Nov2005 – May2008 | | |
|  | | * Mr. Shirk was called to manage, redesign and support the existing SAP BW system for financial reporting, as the client planned for and executed a global rollout and upgrade from SAP BW 3.5 to BI 7.0. He leveraged key international stake holders and evaluated existing systems to define the project scope and requirements. He also designed the standards and built an Enterprise Data Warehouse (EDW) to ensure the solution remained efficient and stable for both the plants and corporate global. * Mr. Shirk managed the SAP BI Reporting and Integrated Planning teams from ramp-up through Post Go-Live for the 6th largest public school system in the US. His team built, collected, and consolidated 750 reports on legacy systems that were being phased out as part of the implementation. He worked with the client to set the long-term reporting strategy and standardize the system and support models. Working closely together, the team fulfilled all reporting requirements and went live with the consolidated budget system for an organization with 40,000 employees, 400 facilities, and 350,000 students. * For the Department of Homeland Security, Mr. Shirk served as the Consulting Reporting Manager for a Production Support project. In that role, he defined SAP BW system standards and employed them in the existing BW system. He also identified, addressed and optimized key deficiencies such as data loading and report latency to improve performance and the end user experience. * Mr. Shirk was a BW Developer for the FI and HR areas on an SAP BW implementation for an energy production company. He crafted the company’s long-term Reporting Strategy; implemented the processes for his responsible functional areas, including FERC reporting; and defined and delivered the end user and BW Administration training, resulting in a successful go-live. | | | | |
|  | | Consulting Analyst | Sep2001 – Jun2006 | | | |
|  | | * At a financial services and insurance organization, Mr. Shirk was brought onto an SAP R/3 and BW implementation, as the Lead and BW Developer for the FI area. After defining, developing, and implementing the FI BW solution, he worked with an off-shore team to ensure the accurate development and a timely delivery of statutory, regulatory, and management reporting. * Mr. Shirk was a Consulting Analyst on an SAP Collection and Disbursement project for the state’s Department of Revenue. He designed and built the solution to address the reporting requirements for the Return Reconciliation Division. These reports were used to determine the efficiencies of manual and optical-character-recognition data entered into the SAP R/3 system, an essential key performance indicator used in Department of Revenue operations. * At a state’s Office of Administration, Mr. Shirk was the Consulting Analyst for the Procurement and Inventory Control departments on an SAP R/3 and BW implementation. He designed and built the reporting solutions. He also authored and delivered the BW training for over 500 Train-the-Trainer educators. His educational documents were also used as the course material for end-user training to over 100,000 state employees. | | | | |
| Education | | | | | | |
|  | | Penn State University | | | | May2003 |
|  | | Harrisburg, PA   * BS, Management Information Systems | | | | |
| Technical compentencies | | | | | | |
|  | * RUP and Agile implementation methodologies * Solution Architect * Big data * QlikSense * Tableau * PowerBI * Multi-dimensional data modeling * SAP BW v2.1 – 4/HANA * ETL processing * Third party and API data extraction maintenance * Complex SQL reporting | | | | | |