Andrei Chirilă

IT Project Manager / Product Owner
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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Product Owner @ SoftGenius   **May 2024 - Present (8+ months)**

- Working as a PO on multiple initiatives such as an iGaming platform for crypto enthusiasts, a gamification engine and a multibrand CMS platform. I am in charge of:
  - Gathering business requirements, researching functionalities, wireframing and prototyping solutions alongside UX designers, transforming everything into work items for engineering team, overseeing work until feature deployment.
- I am involved in shaping the work procedures of SoftGenius engineering team by understanding the current flows and finding more efficient ways to organise the team in order to reach our goals.
  - Improved the research and requirements gathering processes by clearly defining the flow and stakeholders
  - Involved in recruiting of new colleagues for BA / PO positions and in improving onboarding process as a whole

Product Owner @ Evozon Systems   **Apr 2020 - Mar 2024 (3+ years)**

- As PO I handled two products, going through all of the stages of the Product Life Cycle, from defining vision and scope to post-launch optimization and end-of-life management.
- One of the products was an internal app that helped the organization with its sales strategy by offering an overview of the skills of the 500+ employees working in the company and their availability.
  - Reduced the time spent by employees to list their skills and projects by creating a straight-forward process.
- A second one was a mature local product used for scheduling by local businesses.
  - Maintained a constant client base and income (slight 10% increase) over 3+ years while doubling the user base.
  - I was involved in creating an end-of-life strategy and in the discovery phase of a spinoff product.

Project Manager @ Evozon Systems   **Aug 2019 - Mar 2024 (4+ years)**

- As a Project Manager I handled multiple midsized projects (8-12 people) from start to finish and was in charge of managing stakeholders, gathering requirements, managing scope, time and budget, organizing the development team, facilitating Agile ceremonies as an informal SCRUM master, etc.
  - I have managed to have a 95% retention rate, with only 1 person leaving any of my teams in these 4 years.
  - I have successfully passed an ISO 27001 and 9001 audit while improving processes and delivery times by up to 25%.
- For 6 months I have overseen the implementation of multiple ERP projects for more than 20 customers from Romania, making sure to manage shared resources so that everything is delivered on time and on budget.

Regional Program Manager - Google Atelierul Digital Hub @ Evozon Systems   **Feb 2018 - Dec 2018 (11 months)**

- Google Atelierul Digital was an initiative powered by Google throughout Romania, in collaboration with Evozon Systems.
  - Together, we opened and grew two Digital Hubs in Cluj and Timisoara, where over 1000 start-ups, SMBs, and NGOs had the opportunity to receive free consultancy in Digital Marketing for the purpose of growing their businesses.
  - I managed a team of 8 consultants by creating a local strategy, offering support and training, and tracking their progress according to Google's policies and expectations.

Human Resource Business Partner @ Evozon Systems   **Sept 2016 - Aug 2019 (3 years)**

- As HR I was responsible for the wellbeing of 80+ people from 2 different departments.
  - I was in charge on recruiting people that are a good fit both technically and from a cultural standpoint (recruited over 20 people for different positions).
  - Helped management in making decisions regarding the strategy of the department in different areas (learning, recruiting, project allocation etc.).
  - Had regular 1on1 meetings and created PDPs with multiple people from the department.
  - Assesed the learning needs of the department and organised training sessions while delivering over 100h of soft-skills training sessions on various topics (assertive communication, feedback, leadership, presentation skills etc.).

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE INTEREST

I have read and dreamed about AI since I was a kid. The latest trends are giving me hope that I could soon work with these technologies. But I am not one to be satisfied with dreaming, so I started making steps into this field by:

- obtaining the AI Product Management by Duke University, Generative AI for Product Managers by Go Practice certification and even working on a couple of personal AI projects
- developed multiple chatbots, including **Andrei 2.0**, a chatbot with whom you can talk more about me and my work experience so far (ask him anything you are curious about).

Need more info?
Chat with my AI-self

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Grow People Academy

Co-founder   **Oct 2020 - Jan 2023 (2 years, 3 months)**

- GPA appeared in order to fulfill the needs of people who want to join the IT field and want quality training sessions delivered by professionals, focused on practice and building a portfolio, all at reasonable prices.
  - We offered training sessions for beginners on HTML, CSS, JavaScript, and QA. The training sessions were designed to take the participants through the basics up to the junior level and prepare them for internships.
  - I was a co-founder along with two colleagues, and together we went through all of the steps of starting a business: from legal formalities to market analysis, building a brand, marketing, organizing training sessions, etc.
  - With a total of 6 classes held in two years, we helped 35 individuals make their first steps into the IT field. Out of all of them, 5 students got a job right after finishing the course.

LEARNING & CERTIFICATIONS

AI Product Management by Duke University   **Aug 2023**

- This Specialization provided a foundational understanding of how machine learning works, when and how it can be applied to solve problems, the data science process and best practices in guiding machine learning projects, and the ethical and legal considerations of working with AI.
- The course offered me:
  - a non-coding introduction to machine learning, with focus on the process of developing models, ML model evaluation and interpretation, and the intuition behind common ML and deep learning algorithms.
  - a deep understanding of the CRISP-DM process model steps, from how to identify good opportunities for ML through data collection, model building, deployment, and monitoring and maintenance of production systems.
  - ways to identify and mitigate privacy and ethical risks in AI projects, apply human-centered design practices to design successful AI product experiences, build AI systems that augment human intelligence and inspire model trust in users

JavaScript Intern   **Apr 2022 - May 2022**

- I have participated in the Evozon spring JS internship where I deepened my programming skills, learned React and built 5 projects from scratch (2 of them were developed in teams of 3-4 people).
  - learned the basics of React, components, hooks, MaterialUI, how to use APIs, state management, GIT basics etc.
- This experience helped me better understand how developers work, I have gained a deeper understanding of the difficulty of certain tasks and am now able to have a basic, junior level, technical discussion with the people in my team.

Basic HTML, CSS & JS Certification from GPA   **Mar 2021 - May 2021**

- Learned the basics of HTML, CSS & JS in a 50h course over the period of 3 months.
  - developed a couple of basic projects like: Interior Design Webpage, Testimonials Grid Section, 3 Column Preview Card Component, Social Proof Section, FAQ Accordion Card, JS Calculator,

ANC Accredited Trainer   **May 2019**

- I have participated in courses organized by Transilvania Digitala Inovativa 2.0 and obtained the trainer certification.
  - since then I have delivered over 100h of training sessions on multiple topics like: Agile Development, Project Management, Leadership, Conflict Management, Assertive Communication & Feedback, Presentation Skills.

EDUCATION

Masters degree   **2014 - 2016**
Master's degree in Philosophy, Culture and Communication
Faculty of History and Philosophy, UBB University

Bachelor's degree   **2011 - 2014**
Bachelor's degree in Philosophy
Faculty of History and Philosophy, UBB University

High School   **2007 - 2011**
Mathematics and Computer Science, intensive Computer Science specialisation
Colegiul National Petru Rares, Piatra-Neamț

SOFT SKILLS

Training   - certified trainer with 200h+ in training sessions
Coaching   - I implement coaching strategies in my day to day work activities
Leadership - always interested in developing this skill even more

LANGUAGE SKILLS

Romanian   (native)
English   (proficient)
French   (intermediate understanding, intermediate reading, beginner speaking skills)