Chris Henry

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Cover Letters are sometimes too brief to include a full synopsis of a career. Below are many of my accomplishments at BW/GW/GSK/Haleon - many of these are technical (either IT or Chemistry).

Chemistry related? Yes. But transferrable to Quality, to Regulatory, and other Varying Roles. Yes again.  
These skills were obtained after 30+ years as a bench chemist.

* My job in Chemical Development was to design the analytical control strategy for routes of synthesis including raw materials, reagents, isolated intermediates and API. I would estimate that I supported 1-3 routes per year for about 25 years.
* Proficient with reversed phase HPLC and UPLC, I have worked with UV, CAD, Mass Spec, ELSD, OR, CD, and RI detectors. I am proficient with GC including headspace, direct injection, FID, TCD, and ECD. Although not often used, I am familiar with HPTLC including densitometry including various post separation derivatization techniques.
* Familiar with many other types of analysis, Compendial Testing, KF, Viscosity, Flame AA/Graphite Furnace AA, and ICP-AA, many others. I’ve developed protocols for developing methods not only for HPLC, but other techniques – those that many younger chemists don’t realize are not necessarily “walk-up” techniques.
* I built a chiral screen that had a success rate in the 90% range for finding chiral separations. I was able to turn the screen into a day-to-day workhorse and demonstrate column stability to the effect that my department reduced its chiral column spend to nearly $0 and warranted an in-person visit from Chiral Technologies to ask why our business had fallen off so drastically.
* When it came time to roll our electronic laboratory notebook to the UK and Pennsylvania labs, I became the Chemical Development electronic notebook template developer. This required me to work with a mentor and learn Visual Basic for Excel to design, code, validate, and maintain change control for one to two dozen notebook templates. For each template I built up a group of SMEs and we worked across sites to ensure all ways of working were considered. The templates were built using common principles and with an intent to link their results such that the notebook, for the first time, became a LIMS system. We called this “Batch-O-Matic” as it supported automated batch release. The year Batch-O-Matic was rolled out was the first year Chemical Development met its goal for 100% Right First Time batch release documentation.
* I developed a chelation HPLC method, based on an article from 1987 that rivals AA in its usefulness and was cheered by two departments of synthetic chemists when I gave a talk about the method in Paris, France. By providing the method to these departments I was able to reduce residual palladium analysis turnaround from several days (waiting on contract laboratory analysis) to 10 minutes.
* I developed new methods of quantitation that reduced GC residual solvents testing drastically. I’ve progressed this same technique to facilitate Voltaren testing when an opportunity came up.
* In one instance of route support, there was an impurity formed where a chloride was on the opposite side of a double bond on a rather complex molecule that contained two charged, quaternary amines, and we needed a method of analysis. After routing the problem through the entire department, it came back to me unsolved. I took a second crack and not only was I able to separate the two positional isomers, but I was able to explain the electrostatic properties of the separation that made it so difficult to nail down based on work coming out of Iowa State University. The short version of the story is that Marc Porter demonstrated the concept of a voltage gradient across an isocratic HPLC method using a graphite column and I recognized that the di-cation nature of our molecule meant that perhaps the compound’s interaction with the stationary phase might build up a low-level static charge eventually poisoning the separation. If the pump was turned off, the charge dissipated (much like an electronic capacitor) and the separation returned. I looked into a non-disclosure agreement with Iowa State to study this further, but resources were limited at GSK and we never got the project off the ground.
* I developed a method to separate and quantitate counterions for APIs using HILIC-CAD a few years back in Pharma – working from a paper I found from Dionex. I’ve found more than one useful application for this over the past few years.
* I was asked, in 2019, to troubleshoot a problem with peak RRT variability in an HPLC method in Cape Town, South Africa. Seems the issue had been plaguing that site for several years with no fix. I was able to diagnose and provide a fix in about 30 minutes, the issue being a lack of pH control of the mobile phase and easily identifiable once the impurity structures were looked up. The site now has reduced one of its most common Lab Investigation sources.
* My first position at GSK was in the Stability Lab at a manufacturing site in Greenville, NC. Before Richmond, my last position was analytical troubleshooter for Contract Manufacturing Sites in the US, then EU, then EMEA. I’ve worked with API, tablets, capsules, gels, ointments, creams, shampoos, patches, and more.

Sr Scientist, Team Leader, or Quality Manager roles also call for someone who can interact on cross functional teams with representatives from NPD, Quality, Supply Chain, and Regulatory. While I worked in Pharma, I worked on new drug teams, supporting IND files with Chem Dev, Pharm Dev, Regulatory, DMPK, Clinical, etc. Since I moved from GSK Pharma in 2015 to GSK Consumer Healthcare (now Haleon) I have interacted with Quality, Supply Chain, and Regulatory in my role of supporting manufacturing sites in AS&T. I always have positive interactions with everyone on such teams, including one lengthy interaction which best describes my overall way of working (detailed in the next paragraph).

One of the quality managers with whom I worked closely once messaged me after a call with Sweden where we were discussing a problem with an impurity. He admitted that he had heard the phrase “HPLC” for years and never asked what it meant. He knew it was chemistry and impurity related but that was all. He sheepishly asked me if I could describe it to him. We spent an hour on Teams, screen sharing (we were not at the same site) and discussing animations and videos that describe the chemistry not only of HPLCs but what I do in general as an analytical chemist. We could have met for several more hours, but in the end he had the explanation he craved. We did this with no preparation – no forethought, just discussing chemistry ad-hoc. I find myself doing likewise with staff from the stability management team at Richmond this month as well.

When I came to Richmond, I found that certain staff responsible for MyLearning Observer Training modules have retired. Staff have left the company and the position of trainer/observer in some cases are now vacant. I took it upon myself, even at a point when I was thinking of leaving GSK, to become a trainer for Gas Chromatography, FTIR Spectroscopy, and Viscosity. I will continue to do this, if needed, for any other analytical training that is not covered. No one asked, no one requires this of me. I saw a need and I filled it. Nothing more need be said.

As a senior scientist both in CH and in Pharma R&D I’ve performed due diligence for multiple projects. With my career beginning in formulation work, moving to API, and returning to formulation work, I’ve worked with API and many formulation vehicles. I am capable of handling due diligence tasks for most any new product introduction.