

# Thomas Higson's Curriculum Vitae

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## About me

I am a **PMI certified** technical product manager with a background in software engineering. I also have limited experience as an agile coach.

I have more than 5 years' experience in product roles and 12 years' experience overall within software development projects. My experience covers:

- Industry disrupting new concepts and future systems
- Adapting mature systems to better meet changing requirements
- Safety and mission critical systems for automotive and defence projects

Although no longer a developer, I like to keep my knowledge relevant with personal projects such as:

- Small cloud native websites such as [this one to host my CV](#)
- Raspberry Pi projects, such as home automation systems and [Pi Holes](#)
- Selenium scripts to automate admin tasks

## Fields of expertise

- Product management
- Stakeholder management
- Mentoring and training
- Scrum agile software development
- DevOps
- Cloud architecture
- Web apps and services
- Modularity and reuse across product lines
- Automotive engineering
- Safety engineering

## Technology proficiencies

- JIRA
- Amazon Web Services
- Adobe Experience Manager
- ForgeRock
- Artifactory
- Azure
- REST & OData
- Progressive Web Apps
- Git
- Rational Rhapsody
- IQ-RM Pro
- FaultTree +
- Rational DOORS
- Angular
- JavaScript / TypeScript
- Java
- C#
- SQL
- Windows Server
- Oracle Database

# Experience



## Senior Product Manager

**Board Intelligence** since Jul 2021 (2 months)

I manage an agile team tasked with catching up to and getting ahead of the baseline, must-have features for the marketplace, as the market shifts.

This includes managing and communicating the product vision, roadmap and priorities across the team and stakeholders.

Highlights include:

- Baselining our product offering against competitors
- Creating a stakeholder engagement plan to coordinate the company's product group's interactions with stakeholders and establish communication responsibilities on all sides
- Building a strong relationship of trust across the stakeholder group so they can be comfortable trading requirements, even late into development
- Working with a team of experts to make difficult balancing decisions between:
  - Reducing technical debt vs. creating new features
  - Satisfying localised needs vs. creating generic, widely valuable features
  - Satisfying short-term improvements vs. strategic market alignment



## Product Manager

**Ocado** Mar 2020 – Jul 2021 (1 year, 4 months)

### Product Manager: e-commerce browse

I managed an agile team tasked with providing customers with new, inspirational opportunities to try new items within the Ocado Smart Platform e-commerce website.

Highlights include:

- Working with global retail partners of different cultures and markets to agree future visions
- Retaining enough agility to adapt to unprecedented demand and sudden market change



## Product Owner

**Dyson** Sep 2019 – Mar 2020 (6 months)

For this short term contract I helped Dyson prepare for and operate over the 2019 peak trading period by becoming the product owner for their UK, Canada and USA e-commerce platform.

I worked with a wide range of stakeholders to:

- Set the platform themes to give clear direction to developers
- Modify the processes to be more agile
  - Introduced earlier product owner assessments, allowing issues to be found earlier
  - Worked collaboratively with the team to create a new definition of done
  - Empowered developers by connecting them directly to stakeholders

During my time as product owner, the team achieved:

- Zero downtime during the peak trading window for the first time in the site's history
- Recognition from Which in their 2019 website rankings as the #6 electronics sales site, beating notable competition including Apple and Amazon



## Vertex Engineering Lead

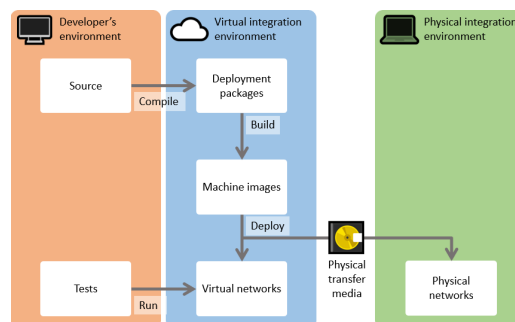
**General Dynamics** Sep 2017 – Sep 2019 (2 years)

As engineering lead for General Dynamic's Vertex research and development department, I worked closely with internal and external stakeholders to ensure our new product innovations were in line with upcoming, ever-changing defence needs.

### Product Owner: Switch

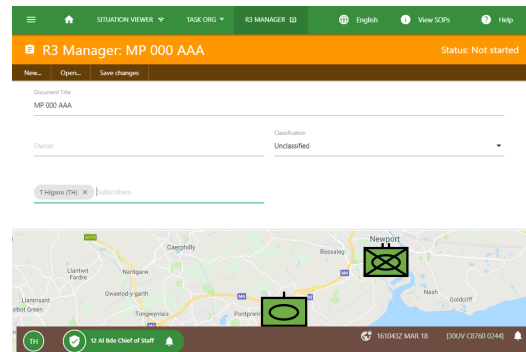
I introduced DevOps practices to Vertex projects by bringing external DevOps consultants into the company. Through this, Vertex and other internal projects have developed a strong DevOps culture and greatly increased both release tempo and feature cycle time.

My project, **Software integration and testing collaboration home, or Switch**, opened similar DevOps pipelines to external developers, allowing rapid integration of apps into the **MORPHEUS EvO network architecture**. The Switch concept is highly disruptive for the UK Defence industry, providing app developers unprecedented levels of network integration in far shorter timescales than previously possible.



## Product Owner: APOC

I took **A**pplication **P**latform for **O**rchestration and **C**ollaboration, or **APOC**, from a spark of an idea to a proof of concept system. Unlike other app platforms, APOC provides MORPHEUS network architecture interfaces for both bespoke and commercial apps to separate business logic and data management from the apps.



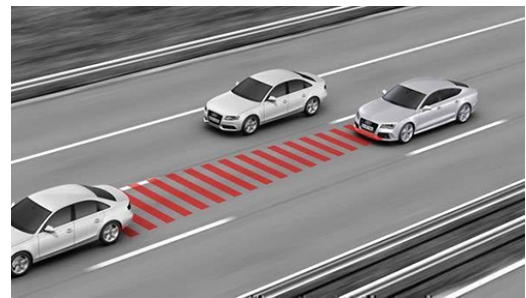
## Engineering Manager

ZF TRW Sep 2016 – Sep 2017 (1 year)

### System safety lead for radar customer projects

I was responsible for assessing the safety of advanced driver assistance systems. A demonstration of some of the systems I contributed to can be seen in [this video](#). My contributions included:

- Delivered safety cases for autonomy level 1 (hands on) systems
  - Led an activity to adapt a passenger vehicle safety case for trucks
  - Analysed the safety impact of different sensor configurations
  - Worked alongside project managers to plan system and safety milestones
  - Acted as the primary point of contact between prototype and project development teams
- Assisted in developing concepts for autonomy level 2 (hands off) systems



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This document is a truncated export from [my portfolio website](#)  
Please visit for more details