# THOMAS AREND, PhD

46 Ashbury St San Francisco, CA 94117

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(415) 689-0928 mail@thomasarend.com

#### **SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS**

- Seasoned Technology Product Executive and Entrepreneur with deep experience in the tech industry as Chief Product Officer, International Product Leader, Corporate Strategist, People Manager, Mentor
- Hands-on in all product development and engineering processes with a track record of building highperforming teams and creating exceptional consumer and enterprise products that delight users
- Ph.D. in Artificial Intelligence / Machine Learning; M.S. in Computer Science, and Mathematics

#### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

# SLINGSHOT AEROSPACE, San Francisco, CA Chief Product Officer

2022 to present

Shaping the company's product strategy and unified product roadmap to drive business growth and accelerate aerospace sustainability for a safer, more connected world

- Leading a team of 10 product managers and 40 engineers that build "air traffic control for space"
- Driving strategic product collaborations with space innovators at NASA, SpaceX, Space Force, USAF

## ASTRA SPACE, Alameda, California

2021 to 2022

#### Vice President and Head of Product Management

Established Astra's product team to create services and products that improve life on Earth from space

- Built, grew, and led a team of 20+ Senior Product Leaders for Launch, Space Services, and Propulsion
- Shaped the company's product roadmap and services portfolio and led the strategic efforts to transition Astra into a product-led organization that is focused on customer and business needs
- Launched Astra's LV0007 mission the company's first successful space flight with satellite deployment in low Earth orbit as one of six officers in the Mission Control room

# JOHNSON & JOHNSON, San Francisco, CA Senior Director and Head of Product

2020 to 2021

Led the company's global Digital Health Technology product

- Established the organization with 12 people in Product, Design, Data Science, and Marketing and drove J&J's digital product transformation with a new generation of products and services
- Launched next-generation heart health monitoring app "Heartline" on Apple Watch as the world's largest clinical study on a wearable. Launched "Scout for Back Pain", J&J's first Digital Therapeutic.
- Built multi-platform apps for consumers and clinical trials for Alzheimer's Care, MS management, Depression, Immunology, Digital Surgery, Holistic Skin Health, and Medication Adherence

## FACEBOOK, Menlo Park, CA Senior Product Management Lead, Facebook AI

2018 to 2020

Built a team that turned advances in AI research into production-ready prototypes and product features

- Launched voice control and computer vision features for Al-powered AR Glasses "Orion", wrist-based smart wearables, Al Video hardware "Portal", and multi-lingual Al voice commands for Oculus VR
- Managed a product growth team of 7 PMs, orchestrated a team of 50+ engineers, user researchers, designers, data scientists, growth marketers, data engineers, content strategists, and marketers
- Led global growth effort to bring the next billion users on the platform; launched a series of growth-driving features like "locked profiles", "anonymity", and "smart notifications" in global markets

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# WISDOM COLLECTIVE, San Francisco, CA

2014 to 2018

#### **CEO and Co-Founder**

Founded Savvy – the global platform for 1:1 teaching and learning over live web-based video

Raised an oversubscribed Seed round from VCs and Angels, built the company, and launched a
delightful live video learning platform for teachers and learners worldwide. Acquisition in 2018.

## AIRBNB, San Francisco, CA Head of International Product

2013 to 2014

Led Airbnb's international product strategy to grow the two-sided market across 192 countries

- Developed product strategy for sustained user and business growth and directed country leads and teams on the flawless execution of the company's global business strategy
- Launched product experiments and features in international markets leading to significant expansion

#### TWITTER, San Francisco, CA Head of International Product

2011 to 2013

Led Twitter's Globalization and launched growth-driving features for international markets

- Drove global product strategy, grew users to over 250 million, doubling in key markets like Germany
- · Launched Twitter in over 30 new languages, incl. bi-directional Arabic, Hebrew, Farsi, and Urdu

# MOZILLA, Mountain View, CA Head of International Product

2010 to 2011

Built and launched Firefox for Android reaching millions of mobile users worldwide

Established a new standard for mobile HTML5 and pioneered "do not track" for mobile browsers

# GOOGLE, Mountain View, CA

2006 to 2010

# **Head of International Product**

Drove global growth through Google Search innovations, product localization, and international features

- Defined strategy for launching products in 120+ languages; led the iGoogle product in 40+ languages
- Guided global product launches with local features leading to dramatic growth, e.g. in Japan, Russia
- Led new Google Homepage feature from inception to global launch resulting in billions of daily views

# SAP, Walldorf, Germany Executive Strategist (2003 – 2006)

1995 to 2006

Drove strategic projects with the senior executive team to shape SAP's product and business strategy

- Identified market growth potential and defined product and execution strategy for the company
- Developed global standards and received patents for the user experience of mobile enterprise apps

#### Senior Product Leader (1995 – 2003)

Built products that put SAP on the map for enterprise applications on mobile devices

- Led a team of 20 Product Leads and 200 Software Engineers in Europe, the U.S., and Asia
- Envisioned and brought to life the first enterprise app for a tablet device "SAP CRM Tablet Edition"

#### **EDUCATION**

**PhD, Artificial Intelligence**, Technical University, Berlin, Germany **MS, Mathematics and Computer Science**, Technical University, Berlin, Germany **BS, Mathematics, Physics, Computer Science**, Technical University, Berlin, Germany