

THOMAS AREND, PhD

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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 high-performing 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

2022 to present

Chief Product Officer

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 60+ 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

2020 to 2021

Senior Director and Head of Product

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

2018 to 2020

Senior Product Management Lead, Facebook AI

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

- Launched voice control and computer vision features for AI-powered AR Glasses "[Orion](#)", wrist-based [smart wearables](#), AI Video hardware "[Portal](#)", and multi-lingual AI 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

2013 to 2014

Head of International Product

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

2011 to 2013

Head of International Product

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

2010 to 2011

Head of International Product

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

1995 to 2006

Executive Strategist (2003 – 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