

Spokespeople Bios

Mark Shuttleworth

Founder of Ubuntu & VP Products at Canonical

Mark is the founder of Ubuntu and leads product strategy at Canonical, the company behind the OS. Mark champions design-driven development and has a focus on quality and cadence in the engineering work done at Canonical.

After graduating in 1995 from the University of Cape Town with a degree in finance and information technology, Mark founded Thawte, a company specialising in digital certificates and cryptography that was acquired in 1999 by VeriSign. He subsequently founded HBD, an investment company, and set up the Shuttleworth Foundation, which funds innovative leaders of change in all aspects of society with a particular emphasis on openness and education. After a year mostly spent training in Star City, Russia, he flew in space in 2002 as a member of the crew of Soyuz mission TM34 to the International Space Station.

Jane Silber

CEO Canonical

In 2010, Jane took over the role as Chief Executive Officer for Canonical. Before moving into this position, she ran several of Canonical's business units as Chief Operating Officer. Jane has over 20 years of business development, operations and software management experience. Her previous roles include Vice President of Interactive Television Company and Vice President of General Dynamics C4 Systems. She has also worked in Japan for Teijin Ltd conducting artificial intelligence research and product development, and in the US at General Health, a health risk-assessment firm. She holds an MBA degree from Oxford University, an MSc degree in Management of Technology from Vanderbilt University, and a BSc degree in Mathematics and Computer Science from Haverford College.

Richard Collins

Product Manager

Richard Collins is part of the Product Strategy team at Canonical and is responsible for Canonical's mobile product strategy. Richard joined Canonical in November last year having come from a career in the mobile phone industry working with handset manufacturers and mobile operators. Immediately before joining Canonical, Richard worked at the Symbian Foundation as a Technology Manager and was responsible for managing a number of initiatives aimed at sustaining Symbian as one of the world's leading smartphone platforms where he gained deep experience working with many market leading organisations in the smartphone industry. Prior to Symbian, Richard worked with both Orange and Vodafone as a senior product manager with a particular focus on next generation mobile data services.

Ivo Weevers

Head of Design

Ivo heads up the design team for Ubuntu at Canonical. In this role, Ivo leads the design of the Ubuntu operating system for mobile devices, PC and TV, its apps, Ubuntu websites, and consumer and business cloud products. The team also directs and develops the Ubuntu brand. Ivo has over 12 years of experience in designing successful mobile, web, and product experiences. He has worked in the telecom, social media, banking, travel, entertainment, medical and car industries. He holds a post-masters degree in design, a masters degree in computer science and studied design management.