

Chris Kirsten

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TECHNICAL PROGRAM MANAGEMENT EXECUTIVE

SCALABILITY | STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP | CLOUD COMPUTE | ENGINEERING OPERATIONS

Innovative and results-driven executive with over 15 years of experience leading enterprise-scale programs, driving operational excellence, and delivering high-impact cloud and gaming solutions. Expertise in aligning technology initiatives with business goals, optimizing large-scale infrastructure, and building high-performing global teams.

SKILLS & COMPETENCIES

Leadership & Strategy

Executive Leadership | Enterprise Program Management | Product Strategy | Budget & Spend Authority (\$500K–\$4M)
Stakeholder Engagement | Engineering Roadmaps | Organizational Transformation
Workforce Development & Talent Strategy | Vendor & Partner Engagement

Cloud & Infrastructure

Cloud Infrastructure | Global Engineering Operations | Large-Scale Systems Deployment | Service Delivery & 24x7 Operations
Data Center & Compute Capacity Planning | Disaster Recovery & Incident Management | AI/ML & HPC Workloads |
Multi-Cloud Delivery | GTM Strategy | Compliance & Regulatory Strategy

Technical & Tools

Oracle Cloud Infrastructure (OCI) | Azure | Xbox Live | Jira | CI/CD Pipelines | Data Pipeline Engineering | Virtualization
BI & Data Analytics | Kubernetes | GPU Computing (NVIDIA) | ITIL

PERFORMANCE HIGHLIGHTS

- ❖ **AI Infrastructure Expansion:** Directed the global rollout of NVIDIA H200 GPU superclusters across OCI commercial regions, achieving a 76% memory bandwidth increase and 1.9x LLM performance improvement; positioning OCI as a competitive platform for enterprise AI workloads.
- ❖ **Compute Market Delivery:** Orchestrated OCI E5 Compute Instance launch (AMD EPYC™) with 33% performance-per-core gain, 50% storage capacity increase, and a 20% reduction in deployment timelines through execution framework optimization.
- ❖ **Multi-Cloud Platform Acceleration:** Led global Exadata X11M delivery across OCI, AWS, Azure, and Google Cloud, delivering 55% faster AI vector search, 2.2x analytics scan throughput, and 25% faster transaction processing at price parity.
- ❖ **Gaming Ecosystem Optimization:** Streamlined Xbox certification pipeline for a 65M+ MAU global user base; reduced certification time by 15% and improved pass rates by 60%, accelerating content release velocity and publisher satisfaction.
- ❖ **Cross-Functional Business Impact:** Established data-driven frameworks linking capacity utilization, revenue capture, and regional readiness metrics, driving more accurate forecast models and contributing to multi-million-dollar cloud revenue growth.

EXPERIENCE

CLOUD & AI PRODUCT CONSULTING | Seattle, WA

06/2025 – PRESENT

CONSULTANT

- Partnering with executive teams to define AI adoption roadmaps, aligning infrastructure performance with product strategy and customer outcomes.
- Coaching TPM and PM leaders to refine value-based storytelling and strengthen alignment between product delivery and corporate objectives.

Oracle (OCI) | Seattle, WA

11/2020 – 06/2025

PRINCIPAL TECHNICAL PROGRAM MANAGER

- Directed enterprise-scale OCI Compute programs, improving scalability, reliability, and cost performance across multiple global regions.
- Led cross-functional initiative that reduced network card failure rates and reclaimed 30% of unavailable capacity, significantly improving customer satisfaction and infrastructure utilization.
- Delivered OCI E5 Compute Instance launch with 33% per-core performance gains and 50% higher storage capacity, optimizing cost efficiency for AI and HPC workloads.
- Managed \$3M+ infrastructure budget for expansion and capacity planning, reducing operational bottlenecks while improving delivery cadence.

- Partnered with AMD and OCI engineering to optimize AI/ML compute performance and throughput, enhancing OCI's competitiveness in enterprise AI workloads.
- Directed rollout of Exadata X11M across OCI, AWS, Azure, and GCP, driving 55% faster AI vector search and 2.2x analytics throughput.
- Developed automation frameworks and playbooks for data center deployment, effectively enabling global scale-out and standardization.
- Led 40+ engineers in service operations, maintaining SLA performance and implementing structured incident response management.
- Established disaster recovery strategies that reduced failover response times by 40% across major regions.
- Created data-driven KPI systems connecting capacity utilization and cost forecasting, aligning infrastructure expansion with revenue strategy.
- Served as a key bridge between engineering, product, and executive leadership, ensuring strategic alignment for OCI Compute's growth roadmap.

Microsoft | Redmond, WA

04/2004 – 09/2019

SOFTWARE ENGINEERING LEAD, XBOX PRODUCT & SERVICES

- Managed Xbox Live infrastructure serving 65M+ monthly active users with consistently dependable global scalability and service uptime.
- Optimized ingestion and testing pipelines, reducing certification time by 20% and improving first-pass approval rates by 60%.
- Partnered with HBO, Hulu, and BBC to optimize streaming performance and reduce peak-traffic congestion.
- Directed infrastructure scaling for Xbox One's global launch across 21 key markets, ensuring notably seamless performance at scale.

LEAD PROGRAM MANAGER, LEARNING & CONTENT EXPERIENCES

- Led a team of five managing vendor partnerships, RFPs, and digital learning program delivery.
- Designed compliance frameworks that supported 200K+ Microsoft Certified Professionals worldwide, reducing geopolitical risks and expanding reach.
- Negotiated contracts that reduced development costs by 20% while modernizing digital learning adoption.

CONFIGURATION MANAGER, SYSTEMS CENTER

- Migrated 70% of Microsoft's internal testing environments to virtual infrastructure, cutting costs and improving deployment efficiency.
- Improved release quality and testing throughput through automation and standardized deployment models.

SOFTWARE BUILD ENGINEERING MANAGER, ENTERPRISE SERVER

- Designed and managed scalable build infrastructure for enterprise server applications supporting mission-critical global release pipelines.
- Managed a \$4M+ infrastructure budget, optimizing resource utilization for large-scale software testing.
- Implemented automation frameworks that reduced manual steps and accelerated validation and integration cycles.