ASHESH NISHANT

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SUMMARY

- 23 years of extensive experience in managing Technology, Product Engineering, Delivery, and large-scale globally distributed Programs spanning various domains – OTT, Entertainment, Ad tech, Online Gaming, e-Commerce and Finance.
- Built several high impact technology and product teams from scratch. Ran a tech/sports startup, 10Wickets for 4 years.
- Created world-class tech products and teams. Held Senior Technology Leadership roles at Warner Bros Discovery, Amazon, MPL Gaming, Hotstar, Barclays Global Investors and Reliance Jio with team size varying from 30 to 400.
- Extensive experience in architecting highly scale-able, distributed systems on cloud-based platforms spanning everything from frontend apps and web to microservices, variety of data storage solutions, data science, automation, Dev-ops/SRE, Platform systems, Data engineering , analytics and BI/ML stacks.
- Emerging interest in Web3, Blockchain, NFTs

- Passionate about
    - Active mentorship and creating world class product/engineering teams
    - Transforming orgs to have a strong engineering cultural identity
    - Architectures which drive data democracy within tech stacks
    - Evangelizing Data driven decisions
    - Driving continuous learning and improvement
    - Engineering alignment to drive ambitious business goals
    - Creating self-evolving/organizing teams
    - Discipline of product management, growth hacking and engineering excellence
    - Hiring excellence, talent retention

EXPERIENCE

Warner Bros Discovery, India

Bangalore/Pune – Group VP Technology, Head of India Dev Center – since December 2021

I lead Video Content Supply Chain, client and server-side Automation, Aggregated TV Everywhere(on Android, FireTV, ioS, AppleTV, Roku, and many other set top boxes globally), Devops/SRE, Performance Engineering, Content Metadata System. I also head Global Video Ad Tech with in-house solution for Supply-side platform, Ad server and Server-side Ad insertion. I am also the site leader for India Development Center.

MPL Gaming, India

Bangalore/Pune – SVP Technology – July 2020 to November 2021

MPL Gaming is a fast growing start-up in Real Money Gaming business.

I designed the entire Tech org and set up the org structure for the required verticals – Development, Quality Automation, PMO, Security, Data Engineering, Devops/SRE, Tech Ops and L1 Support. Set up the operating model for Quarterly Roadmap planning, OKR definition/reviews and a strong adoption of Kanban and Sprint based models for applicable teams. Set up several workstreams for hiring excellence, talent acquisition, retention and L&D. Integrated GTM strategies, Beta-user management, CS feedback loop and continuous experiments as tenets of Program Management.

Drove a Security-first approach. Modernized the entire tech stack with gRPC based microservices, revamped front end apps with improved performance, built 100% observability into systems with capabilities for synthetic monitoring, Real User Monitoring, log management, alerts – all under a Unified dashboard. Introduced Timeseries Database, GraphDB, Wide column Databases to reduce dependency on relational databases. Brought in a new architecture for data democratization and re-designed the entire stack of data engineering. Created a cadence for architect council and weekly arch reviews. Drove several build vs buy decisions to modernize the stack and enable faster feature delivery.

Led critical innovations for driving differentiated user journeys on the app based on different cohorts. Game Broadcast, Game replay, eSports, Tournaments, CLM (via ML) are some of the high impact features which were built on a revamped tech Stack. Drove engineering excellence through unified code branching strategy, strong frontend/backend automation, discipline of Performance engineering(load/stress/chaos), Release Engineering, CI/CD.

Reliance Jio, India

Bangalore/Mumbai – VP Strategic Initiative and Head Of Engineering, eCommerce Storefront – July 2018 – June 2020

Re-architected the entire backend stack with the uber goal to transform Jio into an API-first company. I have led a 250+ engineering and product teams for managing **MyJio super-app** experience. MyJio is the gateway to the Jio ecosystem of 20+ applications for over 350+ million Jio customers. I have helped the team achieve unprecedented scale driving several product innovations, corrections in tech stack, team-re-orgs and re-architecture.

Built **Communities of Practice and Excellence** across several Tech and Design domains. Instrumental in transforming Talent acquisition standards and processes. Helped set up the Blockchain Center of Excellence and a draft implementation of the same for smart contract management of Reliance Supply chain.

Headed **Storefront Engineering, Product and Design** for Reliance ecommerce across several ver3cals – Fashion, Lifestyle, Toys, Jewellery, Home Appliances, etc. Helped re-architect the entire tech stack to migrate away from proprietary commercial systems to open source, cloud-based platforms. Re-organized the teams in pods and

horizontals for optimal speed of feature and platform development. Led a complete refresh of the customer experience journey on the app by engaging several research and design agencies. Responsible for driving alignment across 20-odd businesse verticals and leaders.

Hotstar, India

Bangalore – VP Engineering – Dec 2016 – July 2018

I led Engineering teams across Mobile, QA-automation, Website, Microservices, Devops, Ad-tech, Data science, Video content management and analytics for developing highly scalable, low latency, resilient systems to deliver digital video entertainment at a world-record breaking scale. Defined the charter to bring all outsourced development in-house. Re-organized engineering and product teams. Defined methodologies for development, testing, release engineering, and performance monitoring. Drove the re-design and re-architecture of website and apps. Developed a native web Video player in-house. Built a highly scalable polyglot microservices stack and an inter-service messaging framework. Created Clickstream stack, data engineering pipelines, in-house analytics platform, recommendation/personalization engine, demographic targeting leveraging complex data engineering, machine learning and cloud native stack. Created the charter for full automation. Defined the roadmap for Cloud Infra management, containerization of services, CI/CD pipeline and in-house APM stack. Responsible for scaling up team size to 15X. Defined engineering core values and best practices. Headed Talent Acquisition for 2 months to improve the process and remove bottlenecks. Instituted a bar-raiser program. Set up Bangalore Engineering Center from scratch.

Amazon, India

Bangalore – Senior Tech Manager (L7) – June 2013 to Nov 2016

I was a full stack tech owner of BuyVIP.com (Italy, Spain, Germany) handling International expansion of flashsales business for EU across Product, Website, Services, Mobile, QA. Built Website, Services, Machine-learning, Devops, UX, Product, QA, Mobile teams. Created Product and Tech charter for expansion of BuyVIP to 23 more countries in EU and helped implement about 20-odd features in 2 years. Drove a mobile-first strategy, re-architected customer experience, checkout, cart, etc. Implemented Personalization and recommendation engine, architected a container-based Microservices framework and automation testing of entire tech stack. Became a bar raiser for Hiring and underwent two promotions in two years.

10Wickets.com

Bangalore - CEO, CTO, Founder - 2010 to 2013

Fpunded a Cricket management Solution for web and mobile (Android) apps for all entities in the Sports ecosystem with modules for live scorekeeping, match, tournament and sponsorship management, performance management for Cricket Academy, its own open sourced Ranking system for individuals and teams. It was a cloud-based, scalable web application created on a Java, JEE stack utilizing several Opensource frameworks.

Barclays Global Investors (now Blackrock)

San Francisco, US - VP Technology - 2005 to 2010

Worked on several desktop and web products for Derivatives trading, FX trade and Exchange Traded Funds (iShares.com). These were highly scalable, high-volume transactional, distributed systems. Evangelized Agile and Scrum practices across the firm. Managed globally distributed teams. Was also an active programmer and took on the role of an Architect for several product lines.

Accenture (for Bank Of America)

Bangalore and California, US - Associate Manager - 2002 to 2005

Created a web-based application for the administration of corporate clients of Bank of America. Was also responsible for managing an Onsite team. I provided technical training to team members, adopted Agile methods across several projects, supported Pre-sales solutions, and ensured delivery of multiple projects.

Wipro (for NYSE)

Bangalore - Software Engineer - 2001 to 2002

Programmed for an application managing listed company governance on desktop and web platforms for NYSE

TECHNOLOGIES

Blockchain, Flink, Spark, Storm, Apache Beam, Airflow, Nifi, Kafka, AWS, GCP, Ansible, Chef, RapiDeploy, Rightscsle, Spinnaker, CircleCI, Zabbix, NewRelic, AppDynamics, Jenkins, GoCD, Akamai cache, gRPC, React, React Native, Android, iOS, Aerospike, Redis, Microservices, Docker, Kubernetes, Netlix OSS, Java, JEE, JSF, Play, Android, Node, Jboss, Websphere, EhCache, MemCache, Node js, Big Data(Hadoop), Google App Engine, Javascript(jQuery, RestJS, Redux, Angular, Knockout, Backbone), Zookeeper,Play and Akka Framework, Sybase, MySql, MsSQL, Oracle, CouchDb, MongoDB, Cassandra, Timescale, Hibernate, Seam, Spring, Lucene, Solr, JMS, ActiveMQ, (it's a really long list…!)

EDUCATION

- Master's in Computer Applica3on, Ins3tute of Management Technology, Ghaziabad, 2001
- Bachelor's in Economics, Delhi University, 1997