Dr. Thomas Ford

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SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS

- Visionary Technology Product Executive and Entrepreneur with a Ph.D. in AI, expertise in Computer Science and Mathematics, blending technical depth with strategic leadership across global markets.
- Proven leader in product strategy and development, delivering innovative, user-centric solutions that drive global business growth, with a deep understanding of diverse markets and cultural dynamics.
- Experienced in building and scaling high-performance teams worldwide, fostering a culture of collaboration, innovation, and operational excellence that consistently exceeds expectations.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Luminary ROLI Ltd., London, U.K. Chief Product Officer

2024 to present

Driving transformational leadership across the company by shaping and executing an innovative product strategy that delivers breakthrough hardware and software solutions for music creators.

- · Launched Airwave, a groundbreaking product that introduces spatial music and transforms user experiences.
- Leveraging deep international experience to elevate the executive team and align global operations.

SLINGSHOT AEROSPACE, San Francisco, CA

2022 to 2024

Chief Product Officer

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

- Led a team of 70 engineers, designers, product leaders that built "air traffic control for space"
- Drove 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
- Led the product roadmap & services portfolio for Astra's transition into a product-led, customer-focused org.
- 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

- Built a team of Product, Design, Data Science, and Marketing, driving J&J's digital product transformation.
- Launched "Heartline", largest wearable clinical study, and "Scout for Back Pain," J&J's first Digital Therapeutic.
- Developed apps for Alzheimer's, MS, depression, immunology, digital surgery, skin health, and med adherence.

FACEBOOK, Menlo Park, CA

2018 to 2020

Senior Product Management Lead, Facebook Al

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

- Managed product growth team of 7 PMs, coordinated 50+ cross-functional engineers, designers, marketers.
- 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
- Launched a series of growth-driving global features like "locked profiles", "anonymity", "smart notifications"

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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
- 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 | MS Maths, Computer Science | BS Maths, Physics, Computer Science, TU Berlin