Vladimir Izmalkov

Technical writer

Summary

Technical Writer with tech background and 14 years expertise in writing highly technical and user-friendly documentation. Recruited and managed my own teams of 10+ people, successfully implemented doc-as-code approach twice, founded Technical Writers Guild at VK (ex Mail.ru), oversaw 10+ technical projects implementation. Opened for opportunities outside of Russia. I was a software developer long time ago, and have a good understanding of SDLC, tools and technologies.

Recent work experience

Lead Technical Writer at VK Cloud Solutions (ex Mail.ru Group) — 11/2020 - Present

- Developed product documentation for 3 enterprise products, including a cloud platform (IaaS, PaaS, SaaS components) with web GUI, API, CLI interfaces. Terms of references, Manual testing programs, User guides, Admin guides etc.
- Developed project documentation for 10+ projects. B2B clients, over 1,000 pages, including: Tender bids, Technical projects, Software descriptions, Functional specifications, Design notes etc.
- Recruited and led a documentation team of 10 (tech. writers, analysts, QA and DocOps).
- Designed and implemented a technological stack (Asciidoctor, Antora, Docker, Git) to develop and deliver docs faster with Docs-as-code approach. This shortened TTM from 3-4 days to the same day delivery.
- Designed processes in my team: weekly sprints, retrospective meetings, style guide discussion, daily scrum and periodic one-on-one feedback meetings. Built internal knowledge base in Confluence to increase process clarity and maintain consistent document style.
- Headed Technical Writers Guild of 40+, organized 20+ meet-ups to discuss best practices, problems, reports from Knowledge Management Conference and organized a workshop by a famous technical writer.
- Developed full set of documents for security certification of 2 enterprise products.

Dean at GeekBrains (Secondary project) — 01/2021 - 06/2021

Dean of Technical writer training program.
Developed training plan: 8 training courses, and 2 of them I later developed myself. Found and filtered course authors and trainers. Coordinated other authors. Marketing activities.

Senior Technical Writer at Mail.Ru Group — 07/2019 - 11/2020

- Wrote open source documentation both in English and Russian for in-memory DBMS Tarantool with 7000+ public installations worldwide. Big enterprise and internal clients.
- Managed Security certification for the Tarantool Data Grid product: organized certification process, designed information security requirements, interviewed engineers to implement required security features and wrote over 35 documents for certification.
- Eliminated more than 1 year of technical debt in documentation for the Data Grid product.
- Developed project documentation and tender bids for 10+ projects.

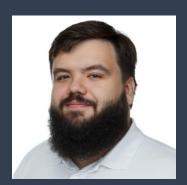### Head of Research Department, VNII GOChS, EMERCOM — 04/2016 - 07/2019

All-Russian Research Institute for Civil Defense and Emergencies

- Developed technical proposals and tender bids for World Bank Group tenders to for studies and supervised implementation of emergency management automated systems in foreign countries.
- Produced feasibility studies, technical reports and other documents for World bank Group.
- Created System-112 test lab to research and showcase emergency services dispatchers procedures and technologies.
- Provided expertise and consultant services for System-112 integration for IT companies.
- Recruited, mentored and managed a team of 5 system administrators to technical support of the Institute. 500 PCs, 9 server racks, video surveillance and other systems.
- Created 328 hours of curriculars for 4 courses, delivered 136 hours of lectures and seminars on Tech Standards, Technogenic Safety and IT for 90+ students and professionals.

Total work experience: since 2008. See more at linkedin.com

Education

Ph.D. in Technology	VNII GOChS (Research Institute)	2011 – 2015
Bachelor of Computer Science	Bauman Moscow State Technical University	2010 – 2011
Master of Engineering of Space transport systems and Spaceships	Bauman Moscow State Technical University	2005 – 2011

Contacts

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Skills

- Guides, Tutorials, Test cases
- Project and technical docs.
- Code and Docs Reviews
- Research, Data Analysis, Systems architecture, Testing
- SMEs Interviews
- People Management, Motivation
- Social skills, Soft skills
- Agile, Scrum, Waterfall
- Rewriting texts, Video editing

Technologies

- Asciidoc (Asciidoctor, Antora)
- Markdown (MkDocs, Pandora)
- RestructuredText (Sphinx)
- Confluence, MS Office
- Jira, YouTrack, MS Project
- Git, Python, Lua, HTML
- Draw.io, Visio, PlantUML
- Docker, Vagrant, Terraform
- OpenStack, Hyper-V, VMware, VirtualBox
- OpenVPN, Tunnelblick, ViPNet
- Postman, Insomnia, Wireshark
- HTTP, REST API, JSON, XML
- Linux, MacOS, FreeBSD, Windows, Windows Server

Courses

- Leadership (intensive)
- Advanced Tech Writing (documentat.io)
- Motivation Management
- Conflict Resolution
- Self-Management
- Time Management
- MBTI Typology