**RAJAT KERKAR**

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**SUMMARY**

With 5 years of robust IT experience, I am an experienced and energetic Project Manager specializing in serving US clients. I excel in meticulously planning, executing, and closing projects to align with business objectives. Proficient in bridging the gap between technical teams and non-IT stakeholders, I offer alternative approaches to meet client goals. My skills include adeptly analysing complex situations, facilitating quick decision-making, and motivating teams for optimal results. I possess a comprehensive understanding of cutting-edge technologies, including proficiency in Project Management Software like Jira and Confluence, and programming languages such as Python, C, C++, and Java. I am a strong communicator in English, both verbally and in writing, and have a nuanced understanding of computer hardware and basic networking concepts.

**EXPERIENCE**

**IT Project Manager**

ClaySys Technologies ***July 2021 - Present, India, Goa***

**Responsibilities/Contribution:**

* Established AI/ML branch at ClaySys Technologies.
* Gathered, documented, and managed client requirements.
* Collaborated with business and IT teams to plan and coordinate feature releases.
* Worked closely with Development, Business, and QA teams to ensure story readiness.
* Led project planning sessions to align objectives and strategies.
* Coordinated staff and internal resources for seamless project execution.
* Successfully sourced and onboarded highly skilled candidates to bolster project teams.
* Provided Agile methodology training to enhance team proficiency.
* Managed project progress diligently, adapting strategies as needed to meet objectives.
* Ensured projects met deadlines by prioritizing milestones and deliverables.
* Managed JIRA stories for business, meticulously tracking progress and milestones.
* Facilitated grooming, planning, review, and retrospective meetings with the project team to optimize performance.
* Documented research findings meticulously in Atlassian Confluence for knowledge management.
* Continuously optimized processes and approaches to enhance efficiency and productivity.
* Identified and mitigated impediments hindering the Development team's progress, shielding them from external distractions.
* Proactively addressed conflicts while upholding Scrum values, fostering a culture of openness, honesty, and respect.
* Leveraged expertise in collaborating with UI/UX teams, utilizing wireframing tools like Figma to ensure accurate alignment with requirements and user experience goals.
* Led daily stand-up meetings to foster communication and track progress.

**Tools & Technologies:** Jira, Confluence, Zephyr Testing Tool, Trello, Teams.

**AI Software Developer**

ClaySys Technologies ***July 2020 -July 2021, India, Kerala***

**Responsibilities/Contribution:**

* Understand business goals; craft AI models to hit targets with tracked metrics.
* Analyze available resources; ensure deadlines are realistic and achievable.
* Hunt for online datasets to enrich training sources.
* Dive into data; unveil patterns and insights for informed model building.
* Scrub data rigorously for accuracy and reliability.
* Spot disparities in data distribution; fortify model resilience.
* Oversee data acquisition; supplement training data if necessary.
* Assess ML algorithms; rank them by success potential.
* Define validation tactics for assessing model performance.
* Train models; fine-tune parameters for optimal results.
* Tackle model errors head-on; engineer solutions for maximum effectiveness.

**Tools & Technologies:** Linux, Python, Jupyter Notebook, Jira, MS Office.

**Jr. Software Developer**

Remote Software Solutions Pvt. Ltd  ***December 2019 – May 2020, India, Goa***

**Responsibilities/Contribution:**

* Developed a SAR solution using Flask (Python), HTML, CSS, and Ajax to comply with UK data protection laws.
* Utilized advanced AI tech to scan and analyse organizational files, identifying data subjects based on various variables.
* Implemented NLP-powered filtering techniques to efficiently include/exclude data while enhancing compliance.
* Redacted irrelevant content to ensure compliance with data protection regulations and safeguard sensitive information.
* Contributed to code version integration, facilitating seamless collaboration and version control.
* Delivered filtered information in PDF format to clients, streamlining the SAR process and bolstering data privacy.

**Tools & Technologies:** Python, Flask, NLP, Jupyter Notebook, Jira, MS Office.

**Software Quality Assurance Engineer**

Remote Software Solutions Pvt. Ltd ***July 2019 - December 2019, India, Goa***

**Responsibilities/ Contribution:**

* Contributed to the development of the iConsent Application, aimed at digitizing paper-based Immunization Consent Forms in the UK.
* Derived comprehensive test scenarios to cover various usage scenarios and edge cases.
* Created detailed test cases to effectively validate the application's functionality.
* Executed test cases rigorously to identify and report any deviations from expected behavior.
* Played a key role in testing within an Agile environment, ensuring the functionality and reliability of the application.
* Responsible for test status reporting to keep stakeholders informed about project progress.
* Tracked defects systematically using tools like Jira and Excel for efficient resolution and monitoring.

**Tools & Technologies:** MVC 4, C#, Jira, Excel, Zephyr Testing Tool (add-on to Jira).

**EDUCATION**

**B.E. in Computer Science**

Agnel Institute of Technology and Design • India, Goa • 2019

**Higher Secondary in Science**

Saraswat Vidyalaya • India, Goa • 2014

**High School**

St. Brittoʼs High School • India, Goa • 2012

**CERTIFICATIONS**

**Technical Product Management**

LinkedIn Learning • 2024

**Product Management: Building a Product Roadmap**

LinkedIn Learning • 2024

**DevOps Foundations: Lean and Agile**

LinkedIn Learning • 2024

**Agile Project Management with Jira Cloud: 1 Projects, Boards, and Issues**

LinkedIn Learning • 2024

**Agile Project Management with Jira Cloud: 2 Lean and Agile Processes**

LinkedIn Learning • 2024

**Python Programming Language**

Udemy • 2019

**C++ Programming Language**

NIIT • 2017

**C Programming Language**

NIIT • 2017

**COURSEWORK**

**PHP and Code Ignitor Workshop**

IET Student Chapter • 2019

**Blockchain Workshop**

Government of Goa in association with International Blockchain Congress held at INOX • 2018

**Bootcamp “#StartupHustle**”

Startup Promotion Cell, Government of Goa • 2018

“**ROBOTICS for 2018 and beyond” Exhibition and Workshop**

TAL Manufacturing Solutions Limited at GEC, Farmagudi • 2018

**Internship with “Hatley Technologies”**

India, Goa • 2018

**Android Development**

Centre for Incubation and Business Acceleration (CIBA) • 2016

**INVOLVEMENT**

**Cultural Secretary**

Agnel Institute of Technology and Design • College Fest "FACT 2k18" & "FACT 2k19" • January 2018 - December 2019

**Cultural Secretary**

Agnel Institute of Technology and Design • College Fest “Tech Urja 2k18” & “Tech Urja 2k19” • January 2018 - December 2019

**Assistant‑Editor**

Agnel Institute of Technology and Design • College Magazine “RENAISSANCE” • January 2018 - December 2019

**Treasurer**

Agnel Institute of Technology and Design • Entrepreneurship Cell • January 2017 - December 2018

**SKILLS**

* Project Management Tools (e.g., Jira, Trello)
* Communication (Verbal and Written)
* Microsoft Office Suite
* Windows and macOS Operating Systems
* Python (basic understanding for project oversight)
* Knowledge of Agile methodologies such as Scrum, Kanban, Scrumban, etc.
* Familiarity with Testing Tools (e.g., Zephyr Testing Tool)
* Basic understanding of programming languages (e.g., C++, C) for technical oversight if required