NARENDRA THAPA

Product Engineering Leader | AI, Cloud & Platform Modernization

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SUMMARY

Engineering leader with 20+ years of experience in building and scaling global teams, driving product development, and accelerating innovation across AI, cloud, and infrastructure. Proven track record of delivering high-quality, scalable products, improving time-to-market by 30–40%, and strengthening user adoption through automation, DevOps, and modern architectures. Adept at partnering with product and business leaders to shape roadmaps, enhance customer experience, and drive sustained product growth.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

Accelerated Product Innovation & Growth

Scaled a $7.5M portfolio into a product innovation engine, delivering 35% YoY growth. Accelerated release velocity, improved scalability, and reduced defects by embedding modern engineering practices and automation. Partnered with product leaders to align roadmaps with customer needs, boosting adoption, retention, and market competitiveness.

Engineering Excellence at Scale

Led Flawless Program Execution, delivering 100% On-Time release across complex multi-cloud, networking, infrastructure and cybersecurity initiatives. Increased efficiency by 15% through workflow optimization and proactive risk reduction, enhancing release predictability, stakeholder confidence, and product adoption. Established scalable program governance frameworks that ensured consistent delivery quality and supported long-term product growth.

Pioneered GitHub Copilot AI adoption for Clients

Designed and executed the first Generative AI adoption strategy, championing GitHub Copilot to cut product time-to-market by 30% and elevate developer productivity - establishing a sustainable competitive differentiator. Enabled organization-wide AI readiness by integrating best practices, training, and scalable workflows that accelerated innovation across multiple product lines.

Skytap Automation & Zabbix Monitoring

Architected and executed a large-scale infrastructure automation initiative for a global IT major, migrating from proprietary monitoring tools to Zabbix and Azure Monitor. Reduced monitoring costs and accelerated deployment cycles by 80%, enabling faster, more reliable product delivery at scale

EXPERIENCE

Director of Engineering
Neurealm (formerly GS Lab)

Pune, India
12/2016 - Present

- **Built and scaled a 100+ global engineering team across multiple product lines,** fostering innovation, ownership, and continuous learning—boosting retention by 50% through mentorship and upskilling.
- Defined and executed the **product engineering strategy**, embedding DevOps, automation, and quality-first practices—**delivering a 25% uplift in product quality,** fewer defects, and accelerated release cycles.
- **Partnered with product management** and business leaders to align engineering execution with product roadmaps, increasing release velocity, adoption, and customer satisfaction across portfolios.
- Spearheaded AI, cloud-native, and modernization initiatives, strengthening Azure and GCP partnerships and unlocking higher-tier benefits to support product scalability and innovation.
- Led multi-cloud adoption (Azure/AWS) to reduce infrastructure costs by 30%, accelerate deployments, and support scalable product releases, while embedding DevOps to reduce release cycles by 40%.
- Architected and implemented Skytap automation for deployments and migrations, cutting environment setup from days to hours, reducing manual effort by 70%, and enabling faster product delivery.

Principal SQA Engineer
Veritas Technologies

Pune, India
02/2007 - 12/2016

- **Designed and implemented Veritas Infoscale features on Linux, AIX, and HP-UX** based on customer requirements, resulting in a 30% improvement in system performance.
- **Enhanced product quality to 90% by implementing automated processes,** continuous integration, and efficient issue resolution techniques for faster and more reliable releases.
- Optimized development workflows by automating Linux/Unix environment setups, reducing setup time by 50% and accelerating product deployment timelines by 20%.
- Led the cloud deployment POC of Veritas Infoscale on OpenStack and AWS, successfully delivering full implementation and deployment across both platforms.

System Administrator
Network Information Services

Indore, India
02/2005 - 10/2006

- Strengthened IT resilience by defining and implementing server/workstation recovery plans, reducing downtime by 20% and boosting system efficiency by 25%.
- Ensured seamless IT operations by managing backups, Linux servers, Windows PCs, patching, and network maintenance with 100% compliance to AMC requirements.

CORE COMPETENCIES

Leadership and Delivery: Product Engineering, Program & Project Management, Agile, Scrum, DevOps, Scalable Team Building, Innovation Delivery

Technical Skills: Generative AI (GitHub Copilot, Cursor), Cloud (AWS, Azure, GCP), VMware, Skytap, Python, Docker, Kubernetes, Storage Solutions (Commvault, Veeam, FalconStor), AIX, Linux

TRAININGS & CERTIFICATIONS

- Leadership Training offered by IIM Ahmedabad and facilitated through Coursera
- Artificial Intelligence Certification accredited by Illinois Tech and delivered via Coursera
- AWS Certified Solution Architect – Professional
- Google Cloud Certified Professional Cloud Architect
- Microsoft Certified - Azure Solution Architect Expert
- Microsoft Certified – Azure AI Engineer Associate
- Certified Scrum Master (Scrum Alliance)
- ITIL v4 Foundation Certificate in IT Service Management

EDUCATION

Diploma in Hardware and Networking from Jetking, India
Jetking Infotrain Limited

Indore, India
2002 - 2004

Bachelor of Commerce from North-Eastern Hill University, India
North-Eastern Hill University

Shillong, India
01/1998 - 01/2001