TOM ARRA

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OBJECTIVE

To secure a position in the software development field where I will be able to apply my broad base of technology knowledge and product management experience to enhance company performance and build amazing products.

EXPERIENCE

Senior Product Owner
BMW Technology Corporation, Chicago, Illinois
October 2016 – Present

Product Owner
BMW Technology Corporation, Chicago, Illinois
November 2014 – October 2016

- Part of initial program management team for the new BMW Technology Corporation office in Chicago, IL
- Led 2 teams of approximately 6 engineers each during the development of the new BMW Connected application for iOS
- Designed and ran BMW's first external beta test with 1,000 users. Gathered valuable feedback from real users that helped shape the new BMW Connected application
- Drove design and development teams for the BMW Connected debut at CES 2016. Attended CES as BMW Technology Expert.
- Served as release manager for iOS. Included setting up metadata delivery process for fast and easy App Store updates
- Created release plans/backlog and drove development for bringing the new BMW Connected application to Android.

Product Owner
Microsoft, Chicago, Illinois
April 2014 – November 2014

- Focused on bringing Microsoft Services to the 100 Million Monthly Users' of the Xpress Browser.
- Drove focus for one team which consisted of 8 members
- Defined requirements and led team through development of new browser landing page content utilizing the MSN Weather API
- Led definition, development, and deployment of OneDrive integration with the Xpress Browser for Asha Devices
- Represented and evangelized the Xpress Browser team during company wide and external events including trade shows
- Ran technical training sessions for large groups (30+)

Product Owner
Nokia (Acquired by Microsoft), Itasca, Illinois
May 2013 – April 2014

- Recruited to the Product Owner position for the Nokia Xpress for Windows Phone product after organization changes
- Led the redevelopment of Nokia Xpress for Lumia for Windows Phone 8 in a new Agile based methodology
- Drove focus for two teams which consisted of 11 members
- Created a new UX/UI paradigm which allowed users to access their content faster
- Worked with many offsite teams, including phone program management and application technical readiness, to secure Nokia Xpress as a mandatory preloaded application on Lumia devices.
- Launched Nokia Xpress on Lumia and acquired over half a million users in less than one year.

Senior Software Engineer
Nokia, Itasca, Illinois
February 2012 – May 2013

Windows Phone
- Prototyped and then led development of Nokia Xpress for Windows Phone. Prototype was developed in spare time with two other colleagues before being picked up for full time development
- Developed main application architecture and led feature design
- Led team in adopting Agile practices including moving to a DevOps model

Asha
- Provided architecture guidance on all feature implementations as a senior member of the Web Apps platform team
- Executed the ScrumMaster role while still also being an individual contributor on the team
- Collaborated with Product Owner to define user stories
- Promoted and participated in the first Nokia Browser team hackathon. Led a webinar introducing engineers to Web Apps. Contributed to a Web App game that won best hack

Software Engineer
Nokia, Itasca, Illinois
July 2010 – February 2012

- Implemented a JavaScript library used for client-side manipulation
- Created templates, samples and code snippets for the Nokia Web Tools product
- Took on role of ScrumMaster for the S40 Web Apps team during our program's transition to Agile.
- Represented Xpress at Nokia World 2011 and participated in Nokia World Hackathon as a technical expert
- Published, on my own time, two S40 Web Apps to the Nokia Store

Adjunct Professor
DeVry University, Addison, Illinois
November 2010 – May 2011

- Taught CIS-170C (Programming with Lab) with 20 students. Course content included introduction to C++ & Visual Studio, programming concepts, and a final project that demonstrated basic programming ability
- Taught SEC-360 (Data Privacy and Security) with 7 students. Course content was focused around enterprise security including hardware, software, and security policies

UI Software Engineer
Novarra Inc. (Acquired by Nokia), Itasca, Illinois
October 2009 – June 2010

- Daily tasks included HTML, JavaScript, and PHP start page design and development
- Created new server components to help achieve new start page features
- Represented Novarra and won the Tech in the Middle Day of Mobile 2010 Hackathon. Created an Android on-device clipping program that interfaced with the Novarra Vision clipping product

Quality Assurance/Development Intern
Novarra Inc., Itasca, Illinois
June 2007 – October 2009

- Performance testing the Novarra Vision Server and Client product in both a manual and automated fashion
- Managed and performed maintenance on the automated unit testing code using Java and Apache Ant
- Led design and development of Vault, a Ruby on Rails application used to track test cases, test suites, and test results

EDUCATION

Master of Business Administration With Concentration in Information Systems Management
Keller Graduate School of Management, Schaumburg, Illinois
GPA 3.75/4.0 (With Distinction)
March 2009 – October 2010

Bachelor of Science, Computer Information Systems With Concentration in Computer Forensics
DeVry University, Addison, Illinois
GPA 3.95/4.0 (Summa Cum Laude)
July 2006 – March 2009

AWARDS/ACHIEVEMENTS

- DeVry Chicago Metro Graduation Speaker, Addison Campus – March 2009
- Technology Center of DuPage Computer Information Systems Program Advisory Board Member 2006 – 2014
- Boy Scouts of America – Eagle Scout, Class of 2005

PATENTS

- Method and Apparatus for Determining Partial Updates for a Document Object Model
    - United States 14/151472
    - Filed January 9, 2014