

BRETT VALLIS

PRODUCT MANAGER

DETAILS

4 Club Avenue
Uvongo, KwaZulu-Natal, 4270
South Africa
T +27 0676971402
brettvallis@gmail.com

EXPERTISE

Technical Product R&D

Team Leadership. Ability to motivate and inspire development teams to achieve beyond what they imagined possible

Product Lifecycle Management

Waterfall/Agile/Scrum/Hybrid Methodologies

Enthusiasm to develop engineered processes and technologies and to apply innovative solutions to make organizational improvements while encouraging creative thinking and innovation

Go-to-Market Launch Plans

Product Roadmaps

SDLC

IA/UX/UI Design

QA Testing

PROFILE

A committed and highly focused Product Manager with 27 years' experience in full-stack web application development, desktop software development, and hardware product development. Technically experienced in all levels of online application development: IA, UX, UI, code and database design and development, testing and implementation.

26 years managerial involvement at business and team level, including: business strategy, process workflow, team management and product development. Blending strong technical skills with extensive Waterfall/Agile/Scrum/Hybrid project management experience, and analytical abilities to evolve product strategy.

Strategically involved and focused on designing and developing high-value, end-user solutions for retail, SME and enterprise customers, in the consumer electronics and software industries.

International exposure at various companies in the UK and Australia, including consulting for Microsoft Head Office in Reading, UK. Consistently up to date with the latest and emerging trends, products, monetization models and development methodologies.

Owning the product lifecycle from initial concept to delivery.

EXPERIENCE

2017-2020

FOUNDER ZENDZIGNS

Margate, KwaZulu-Natal

- Front-end redevelopment of website for an Australian mortgage company: Athena Mortgages.
HTML5, CSS3, JavaScript, ReactJS, AWS, GitHub, Remote Agile Team
- Full-stack SDLC of TelePets.
Hybrid, Xamarin
- Evaluation and redevelopment proposal and costing for Southern Steel.
Linux, Wine, MSSQL, Excel, VB6, GoLang, MySQL, Azure
- CobbleWeb public facing eCommerce

SaaS Solutions

Requirements Gathering and Analysis

Market and Competitor Research

Troubleshooting and Debugging

Financial Modeling and Forecasting

website POC.

Remote Agile Team, ReactJs, Symfony framework, MySQL, Bootstrap, Wordpress for Landing pages and Stripe Connect. The DevOps tools: Jenkins, Compass, Sass, Jira, Confluence, Slack, Glify chart, Overflow.io

- Site Owner for Private Harley Street Clinic. Shopify, HTML5, CSS3, SEO, Google Analytics, Products, Orders, Customers, Clinics online management
- BrandLove Video Presentation. Adobe Premiere Pro, HTML5, CSS3, PowerPoint
- Full-stack SDLC of Raffizz. PowerApps, Azure, .NET
- Site Owner for Ditton Wine and Spirits. IA, HTML5, CSS3, WordPress, Remote Agile Team

2016-2017

PRODUCT MANAGER (PRODUCT OWNER TEAM LEAD)

Digital Outsource Services

Cape Town, Western Cape

- Product Owner Team Lead for Banking, Risk and Finance services.
- Manage a team of Senior Product Owners, Product Owners, and Junior Product Owners.
- Engage with business stakeholders at executive levels.
- Engage with Development, BI, UX and product teams to deliver on client requirements.
- Develop road map for products, projects and features.
- Transfer Agile skills to internal company teams.
- Interview and hire staff.

2015-2016

LEAD TECHNICAL PARTNER

Barclays Africa Group (Absa)

Johannesburg, Gauteng

- Lead Technical Partner (LTP) or Product Owner for the Intranet collaboration platform: 75K users across Africa, +9000 sites, 3-5 TB of data.
- Engage with other LTPs in the Chief Technology Office (CTO) to strategically develop the full technical capabilities of the organization, in order to provide new and innovative services to the organization and the financial services sector.
- Transfer Agile skills to internal company teams.
- Strategize, architect and manage the roll-out of SharePoint solutions for internal Barclays Africa businesses.
- Develop and review documentation pertaining to business requirements and technical design specifications.
- Manage delivery by Business Analysts, Developers and Consultants.
- Facilitate UAT and ensure delivery of solutions.
- Engage with 3rd party vendors: Microsoft Azure, Amazon Web Services, Dimension Data, and AvePoint.
- Maintain relationships with internal and external stakeholders.
- Evaluate, strategize, architect, plan and implement upgrade from SharePoint 2007 to SharePoint 2013, either on-Premise or in the Cloud.
- Interview and hire team members, annually review performance and develop team members' capabilities.

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

2020: Invited to host international Taiji Quan retreat at the Buddhist Retreat Centre

2016: Voted top speaker at The Share Conference 2016 for my talk on: Using Technology, Neuroscience and Behaviour to Innovate and Transform your Organisation.

2016: Completed the migration of the Barclays Africa Group SharePoint environment to SharePoint Server

2012: Working with various international companies as full-stack web application consultant, both on-site and remotely.

2003 – Present: Developed Enterprise Project Information Center (EPIC) on the WSS 3.0, MOSS 2007, and SharePoint 2010 platforms, which has subsequently been implemented in multiple government, parastatal and enterprise organizations spanning multiple, diverse business sectors.

2007: Introduced the WSS 3.0 platform to the National Health Services (NHS) in the United Kingdom (UK). This involved direct participation with NHS Entities, the architecting of custom software solutions and the management of an internal Microsoft development team. I successfully delivered both projects allocated to me on time and within budget.

2005: International recognition as Sifu.

2014-2015

DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

Eskom

Johannesburg, Gauteng

- Manage full time employees, private consultants and consulting vendors for the roll-out of SharePoint solutions to the organisation.
- Engage with business stakeholders.
- Engage with Development, BI, UX and product teams.
- Develop road map for products and features.
- Transfer Agile skills to internal company teams.
- Manage roll-out of projects by Avanade and other consulting vendors.
- Cost, resource and estimate project metrics.

2013-2014

PRODUCT OWNER AND ARCHITECT

X-Pert Group

Cape town, Western Cape

- Responsible for the continued development of SharePoint and MVC based enterprise project management applications.
- Liaise with internal stakeholders and external customers on developing product functionality.
- Assist SharePoint/EPM consultants and salespeople onsite as required.
- Develop internal software solutions for the organisation.
- Acted as a consultant for customers.

2007-2013

FOUNDER

Syant Technologies

Cape town, Western Cape

- 2013, UI consultant for Assess2Excell education web application (Australia – JAVA, BackBase)
- 2012, UI/UX consultant for Qantas Credit Bureau web and mobile redesign (Australia – JAVA).
- 2012, front---end development for ShiftMeetings.com (Australia – JAVA Struts).
- 2012, full B2B property management application for Lifescape Solutions (Australia --- SharePoint 2010).

2001 – 2003: Hired and skilled up a .NET development team that successfully developed software solutions for clients in Cape Town, and Johannesburg, South Africa. Responsible for the management of the Cape Town office.

1999: Conceptualized, designed, and managed the manufacture of an Infra-Red, PC controlled, Signal-Biased Amplification (SBA) system for large-scale, overhead, distributed audio. This involved electronic design as well as software skills.

1998: Developed an outdoor media management software application with mapping capabilities.

- 2011, developed C#, desktop, industrial dry---cleaning business management application. (C#)
- 2011, developed online case referral POC for the Medical Research Council of South Africa. (ASP.NET MVC3)
- 2007 - 2010, manage team of web application developers. (C#, and SharePoint platforms).

2006-2007

PROGRAM MANAGER

Microsoft Consulting Services (MCS)

Reading, United Kingdom

- Conceptualisation, analysis, design, and implementation of Windows SharePoint Services 3.0 framework for the UK National Health Services Common User Interface (NHS CUI) project.
- Develop document management governance and compliance processes, features and workflows for the NHS using SharePoint.
- Hire and manage team of Microsoft Consultants.
- Engage with NHS Trusts around the UK for User Requirements and Specific Audience pilot programs.
- Engage with 3rd party vendors: Microsoft Azure, Amazon Web Services, Dimension Data, and AvePoint.
- Maintain relationships with internal and external stakeholders.
- Evaluate, strategize, architect, plan and implement upgrade from SharePoint 2007 to SharePoint 2013, either on-Premise or in the Cloud.

EDUCATION

1990-1991
ELECTRONICS – LIGHT CURRENT
Technikon
Witwatersrand
Incomplete

1989
MATRIC
Damelin College
University Entrance

1985-1988
HIGH SCHOOL
American
International
School of JHB

- Interview and hire team members, annually review performance and develop team members' capabilities.

2002-2006

FOUNDER – TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

Projectory (Pty) Ltd
Cape Town, Western Cape

- Conceptualisation, analysis, design, implementation and maintenance of custom software applications to address identified business requirements.
- Management of regional office in Cape Town.
- Full Project Lifecycle ownership.
- Manage C#/SharePoint Development/Test/Implementation team (8 members).
- Client facing.
- Company successfully sold for products, client base and IP.

1993-2002

FOUNDER

Thrasher Technologies
Johannesburg, Gauteng

- Conceptualisation, analysis, design, implementation and maintenance of custom software applications to address identified business requirements.
- Manage Development/Test/Implementation team (4 members).
- Conceptualisation, design, construction and installation of large-scale, distributed audio systems.