

Kevin Matz

software product/project management

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Skills Summary

PRODUCT MANAGEMENT:

- Product strategy and roadmapping
- Market research and customer interaction
- Requirements gathering and analysis
- Creating usable PRDs and software specifications that are praised by developers and testers
- UI/UX, web design, and product prototyping
- Creating demo videos and marketing collateral

PROJECT MANAGEMENT:

- Team leadership, supervision, mentoring
- Project planning, scheduling, controlling
- Proactive process improvement and quality management
- Full hands-on SDLC experience: analysis/design, implementation, testing, release management, and support

Portfolio Highlights

- Book: **Designing Usable Apps: An agile approach to User Experience design** (ISBN 978-0-9869109-0-6) www.designingusableapps.com
- **ChapterLab**, a niche word processing and project management app (Mac and Windows) for book authors and technical writers www.chapterlab.com

Career Experience

Engineering Manager/Product Manager (dual role)

CONTROLLER SERIES SOFTWARE (MAINFRAME ASSOCIATES LTD.), Victoria BC, Canada

Controller Series Software markets the Marina Controller, Retail Controller, and Building Supply Controller point-of-sale and business management products.

- Managed the Software Engineering department (four developers, one QA specialist)
- Created and maintained product roadmaps, release schedules, project plans, and a prioritized backlog for the ongoing development of the Marina Controller product
- Oversaw a technically complex, long-running project to transition Marina Controller from a backend legacy system integration (proprietary THEOS OS and database) to a full Windows/C#/Postgres architecture; successfully migrated existing customers to the new system
- Developed detailed project plans and specs for migrating the Building Supply Controller product and customers from THEOS to a full Windows implementation
- Designed, specified, prioritized, and scheduled feature enhancements and bugfixes; wrote specifications and designed UI mockups for various programs and features (new front-end menu system, Statement Preparation, Inventory Management, etc.)
- Became very involved in the day-to-day scheduling and controlling of development, testing, and deliveries to ensure deadlines and quality standards were met
- Worked with customers on requirements gathering, support cases, and releases
 - Credited with improving customer satisfaction, by being personally involved in training and problem resolution, and by improving internal processes and coaching staff to ensure prompt responses and more professional communication
- Process improvement and modernization initiatives: *(continued on next page)*

August 2014
– August 2016

- Formalized processes and standards in handbooks, checklists, and templates
- Conceptualized, designed, planned, and oversaw the introduction of build automation, continuous integration, database schema management, structured release processes and versioning, regression testing, unit testing, and test automation
- Established and populated a wiki for knowledge management and test cases
- Planned and managed rollout of JIRA to replace in-house ticket and bug systems

Product Designer and Senior Software Engineer

COVERITY, Calgary AB, Canada

Coverity markets software development testing and security analysis tools.

- As UX designer for Coverity's desktop product line, analyzed requirements, designed UI wireframes, and wrote detailed functional and technical specifications for a radical redesign of the Coverity Eclipse and Visual Studio plugins and for major feature enhancements to the *Coverity Wizard* app; aided in implementation and testing
- Produced detailed estimates and plans; involved in hiring process for developers
- Wrote proposal for *DocObjects*, a knowledge/requirements management product

October 2012
– July 2014

Founder

WINCHELSEA SYSTEMS LTD., Victoria/Nanaimo BC, Canada

- Conceptualized, planned, designed, created, launched, and marketed the *ChapterLab* word processing app; created website, e-commerce integration, and product demo/tutorial videos
- Wrote and published the book *Designing Usable Apps* in print and e-book formats
- Consulting engagement for Mainframe Associates on technology modernization strategy
- Performed bookkeeping; successfully applied for and earned SR&ED tax credits

March 2011
– Sept. 2012

JEA PENSION SYSTEM SOLUTIONS, Victoria BC, Canada

JEA Penfax pension software is used by public-sector clients in the US and Canada.

Product Lead (6 months)

- Reporting to the VP Business Development, responsible for the redesign/rearchitecture of pension member portal product *PenWeb*
- Analyzed, negotiated, and documented product requirements and scope
- Led requirements meetings with management and subject matter experts
- Constructed detailed initial project plan and estimates for project team of four
- Wrote functional and technical architecture specs; designed UI and use cases/interactions

May 2008
– Feb. 2011

Lead Developer/Analyst (14 months)

- Involved in project planning/scheduling and application architecture design for a new J2EE web-based version of JEA's *Penfax* product
- Involved in hiring process for new developers; trained and mentored new staff
- Designed high-fidelity interactive UI prototypes for demos to upper management
- Built first prototype of new product; defined interface to legacy calculation engine
- Proposed, championed ten key process improvement opportunities (build automation, continuous integration, DB change management, ticket workflow, etc.)

Developer/Analyst (13 months)

- Translated high-level requirements into technical specifications; developed UI screens, reports, and complex pension service/interest calculation modules
- Introduced test automation; delivered training on OOP, UML, Eclipse, Agile
- Recorded, narrated, and video-edited product demo videos used in a winning bid

CAPGEMINI SD&M AG, Munich, Germany

October 2002
– April 2008

Software Engineer/Senior Software Engineer (*Catalog Editor* project, 18 months)

- Gathered, analyzed, documented, and clarified requirements with client
- Wrote functional specifications and use cases; designed core data models
- Designed interaction concept, UI mockups for *HotStories Editor* companion product
- Wrote access control specs and coordinated implementation by offshore team
- Implemented core multilingual translation editor module (Java, Eclipse RCP)
- As **Quality Management Representative**, defined and documented project processes and standards; managed peer code/document reviews; risk analysis; reported status and defended project quality in internal audits for ISO 9001

Software Engineer (Pension administration system project, 4 years)

- As **Team Lead** for a 3-month, 2-person pension data conversion/reconstruction project, created project plan and estimates, wrote functional/technical specs, and supervised a junior developer; successfully completed project on schedule
- Developed business logic, UI, reports, and XML message processing systems
- Customer support, testing, release management, and quality management

Education and Certifications

- **MBA**, *in progress* August 2017
UNIVERSITY OF AMSTERDAM, Amsterdam, The Netherlands (expected)
- **MSc Software Development**, *with distinction* March 2011
THE OPEN UNIVERSITY, Milton Keynes, UK
- **BSc Computer Science**, *with distinction* August 2002
UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA, Victoria BC, Canada
- **Pragmatic Marketing Certification, Level 3 (PMC-III)** March 2014

Skills

- **Product management** Product roadmapping, backlog prioritization, interviewing/talking to customers, user observation, survey research and statistical analysis, analytics, A/B split testing, rapid prototyping, Lean Startup approaches
- **Project mgmt. tools** JIRA Agile, Pivotal Tracker, Microsoft Project, Scitor PS8, Excel
- **Wireframing/mockups** HTML/CSS/Javascript, Adobe suite, Balsamiq, Visio
- **Requirements techniques** UML, E-R modeling, business process modelling, personas, use cases, user stories, wireframing, formal and semi-formal specifications
- **Programming languages** Java, SQL, HTML/CSS/Javascript, PHP, C, rudimentary Python/Django
- **Languages** English (native), German (fluent but atrophying), Dutch (basic-intermediate)

Links

- Portfolio: www.kevinmatz.com
- Blog: www.architectingusability.com

11 February 2017 ■ Latest resume available at: www.kevinmatz.com/resume