Sandeep Viswanatha, Sr Technical Program Manager

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Professional Experience Summary

Result oriented and accomplished Program Manager with over 20 years of experience in delivering large transformation programs, client management and team management. Proven track-record of executing complex initiatives including data transformation, advanced analytics, machine learning, technology modernization, cloud migration and legacy modernization. Distinguished for leading globally distributed teams, managing vendors, fostering collaboration across cross-functional groups, and cultivating strong relationships with C-suite executives and senior stakeholders. Adept at translating business and IT imperatives into actionable plans, and guiding organizations through transformative changes. Significant contributor to the PMO and Architecture practices, enhancing project and architecture governance.

Areas of Expertise

Project, Program and Portfolio management – Waterfall, Agile, Scrum, Hybrid | Large transformation programs – Data & Digital transformation | Stakeholder management - Cross functional team collaboration | IT Consulting – Client management | Technology - Databricks, Spark, Microservices, Spring Boot, DevOps, Microsoft Azure | Tools - MPP, JIRA, Confluence | Contracts - Fixed Price, Fixed Capacity and T & M | People Management | Certifications - DevOps foundational Certified, Certified Scrum Master, Professional Scrum Master | Industry – Insurance, Finance

Professional Experience NTT DATA (2004 to Present)

**Sr Technical Program Manager (Jul 2019 to Present | Client – National Life Group | Location – US)**

Key Initiatives

* **Enterprise Data Transformation (3 years, $15M, 50+ team size) -** Transform the enterprise data landscape and improve data quality to enable data-driven business decisions. Build Data Lakehouse platform on cloud supporting structured and unstructured data, modernize and migrate data from legacy SQL Server to cloud for advanced analytics and AIML usecases.
* **Life & Annuity New Business App and Data Modernization (3 years, $20M, 50+ team size) -** Modernize the New Business legacy mainframe application to SaaS iPipeline Resonant platform. Build API integrations with the external and internal systems and near real-time data integration for OMNI channel, advanced analytics and external feeds.
* **Actuarial Data transformation (2 years, $10M, 20+ team size) –** Modernize and migrate theActuarialfinancial data from legacy to Enterprise data platform (Databricks) for real time analysis and financial forecasting. Build rule engine with control framework to execute financial models built by Polysystems and migrate model output data to cloud for real time financial analysis and reporting.
* **Microservices Transformation (1.5 years, $3M, 20+ team size) –** Transform the enterprise integration landscape from monolithic BizTalk to microservices Spring Boot APIs deployed on Azure Spring Apps. Transformed 60+ services to 100+ microservices w/o business interruption.

Key Responsibilities

* **Program planning:** Create detailed business cases with strategic roadmaps and cost-benefit analysis. Develop comprehensive integrated programs plans using Microsoft project and JIRA. Support the product Owner to align product backlogs in JIRA with program plans.
* **Program Execution**: Spearhead the program execution from requirements analysis to production delivery in a highly ambiguous environment. Manage scope, budget, schedule, resources, and change requests. Identify and mitigate risks, managing internal and external dependencies. Coach the scrum teams, facilitate scrum ceremonies and scrum of scrums. Guide execution team in problem solving and remove impediments swiftly. Conduct regular program governance meetings with leadership and deliver data-driven status reports.
* **Solution Architecture** – Facilitate and actively contribute to the development of solution architecture (use-case context, component, and deployment diagrams, NFR’s etc.) to ensure it aligns with the business requirements. Collaborate with cross functional stakeholders (infrastructure, security, IT audit, data, apps and business architects) to drive architecture decisions.
* **Stakeholder Management**: Build strong relationships with Business leaders, CIO, CDO, CTO, CISO, and heads of infrastructure and applications and their direct reports.
* **Vendor Selection and Relationship:** Proficient in preparation of RFI, RFP, conducting gap analysis and fitment assessment and drafting comprehensive SOW’s. Function as a single point of contact for coordinating with vendors iPipeline, Microsoft, Databricks, Qlik, Polysystems etc.).

Key Accomplishments:

* Won **Datos (Novarica) insurance Technology award** for implementation of test data masking as part of data transformation program.
* Awarded best team for data transformation program at **NTT DATA president club awards**.
* Established and institutionalized **consistent agile/hybrid methodology** for IT initiatives.
* Established **enterprise Architecture board** with representatives from all IT functions to enable consistent architecture solution practices.

**Technical Program Manager (Aug 2014 to Jun 2019 | Client – National Life Group | Location – US)**

Key Initiatives:

* **Cloud transformation program** – **(3 year, $5M, 20+ team size)** Onboard Microsoft Azure in a highly regulated insurance domain, migrate enterprise homegrown application workloads from on premise servers to Azure. Rewire the downstream application consumption to cloud without business interruptions.
* **Enterprise DevOps program (6 months, 500K, 10+ team size)** - Implement CICD pipelines using Jenkins, SonarQube, Git and infrastructure as code using Terraform. The CICD pipelines were migrated to Azure DevOps in 2023.
* **Legacy SQL Analytics Stabilization –** **(2 years, $5M, 20+ team size)** Build on-premises data platform using SQL server/SSIS/Attunity replicate/staging/data warehouse for life insurance business domains such as New Business, Inforce, Customer, Commissions, Sales etc to support advanced analytics (Tableau, Alteryx).
* **Agent Payroll modernization** **(2.5 years, $10M, 30+ team size)** Modernize the Agent payroll system by transitioning from a legacy mainframe system (GEAC) to the **UltiPro** SaaS platform. Build external / internal API integrations and data integrations for analytics and downstream application consumption.

Key responsibilities

* **Program Planning/execution**: Develop comprehensive integrated programs plans in Microsoft Project including detailed sub-sections for each project or workstream. Support Product owner to align backlogs in JIRA with program plans. Manage program execution from requirements gathering to production delivery, warranty and transition to operations. Facilitate Scrum ceremonies such as backlog refinement, sprint planning, sprint retrospective, sprint demo / reviews & daily scrum. Conduct regular retrospectives to enhance program efficiency. Manage scope, budget, schedule, resources, and change requests, risks, and dependencies. Facilitate collaboration across IT teams to resolve issues and enable swift decision-making.
* **Solution Architecture**: Facilitate development of solution architecture (use-case context, component, and deployment diagrams, NFR’s etc.) to ensure alignment with business requirements. Lead the process of securing architecture signoff from IT cross functional teams.
* **Stakeholder management**: Establish and manage relationships with business and IT team members at all levels. Conduct project governance and steering committee meetings. Deliver data-driven executive summary reports to leadership team and tactical status reports to project stakeholders.

**PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE (Feb 2004 to Jul 2014 | Clients – Unisys and McKesson | Location – India, UK, Netherlands and US)**

**As a IT Project Manager,** led teams across multiple geographies (US, UK and India) to provide development, engineering, migration, and testing services for a large healthcare firm in US. Some of the key projects managed include end to end development of pharmacy management system, building canned and ad hoc reports for pharmacy users; test automation of hospital management system; enhancement of multiple applications across various technologies (Mainframe, Web, and SQL) to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements.

**Key Responsibilities**: Engaged business users to gather requirements, defined project scope, developed project schedule, supported technical architecture & solution, led development and implementation of the project, provided post-implementation warranty, and obtained sign-off on project closure**.**

**Key Accomplishments:** All projects were executed at CMM Level 5 and delivered within the approved scope, schedule, cost, and quality. Won “best project manager” award in 2011 for project management and execution category under life sciences vertical**.**

**As a Technical lead,** provided technical oversight for property and casualty insurance web application built using Java/J2EE and stand-alone action engine application built using Java swings & SQL server. With this solution, business could build and administer insurance products and agents across Netherlands could submit policies online instead of paper applications.

**As a Software Engineer,** developed and enhanced web applications for P & C insurance providing features to enter a policy, estimate premium, claims processing, reporting etc) using Java/J2ee/SQL, ANT scripts and Hudson for CI/CD**.**

**Education and Certification**

* **Education**: Bachelor of Engineering in Computer Science (1999 to 2003, Visvesvaraya Technological University, Bangalore, India)
* **Certifications**: Six Sigma Green Belt (2012), DevOps foundational Certified (2017), Certified Scrum Master (2015)