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Personal Statement

As someone who has been working in the business intelligence space for over a decade, I have experience of working across a variety of industries, with a range of different responsibilities, adapting as appropriate to facilitate project delivery. Almost always in a role with regular business contact, I have progressed from working as part of a team of developers to roles as a senior developer/architect, mentoring less experienced team members, and taking a leading role in the overall design of solutions. I am comfortable defining best practices for a project/department, both from a technical and process perspective, and in particular have worked with existing teams to improve their change management procedures. Over the years I have worked on projects managed with a more traditional waterfall methodology, as well as projects run iteratively, and most recently with agile methodologies including Scrum and Kanban. Additionally, I have worked as part of an in-house IT department, as well as participating in numerous outsourced projects, using an onshore-offshore development model.

Employment History

Senior Developer (permanent position)
Multinational electronics corporation
March 2014 to present
Technologies: MicroStrategy, Tableau, Netezza, Ab Initio

My current position includes ownership of the reporting layer for a loyalty points scheme (primarily delivered using MicroStrategy 9.4.1), and driving change to the data marts to improve and extend the information available to the business. This encompasses working closely with senior management to identify KPIs, and deliver both dashboards and operational reporting to ensure these measures drive the day-to-day running of the scheme.

Senior BI Analyst (permanent position)
Leading online clothing retailer
March 2013 to March 2014
Technologies: MicroStrategy, Microsoft SQL Server

Working in the BI team, and initially using MicroStrategy 9.3.0, my role included working on a re-engineering of the company-wide reporting solution, participating in data modelling, owning the reporting design, and coordinating the upgrade of MicroStrategy to version 9.4.0. Additionally, I implemented more robust change management processes, aligned with the application lifecycle management principles in place for ETL code changes, and assisted in the team's adoption of agile methodologies.

BI Consultant (contract position, 1 renewal)
Multinational music corporation
May 2012 to March 2013
Technologies: MicroStrategy, Microsoft SQL Server, Informatica

With development and support teams offshore in both USA and India, my role in the London office was business-facing, working with the team responsible for reporting to manage, guide, and prioritise work on a new, high volume, global data warehouse. Comprising business analysis, consulting on best practices from both a process and a technical perspective, and some time-critical development work, I was the single point of contact for the stakeholders with regards to the day-to-day progress of the project. From

the offshore teams' perspective, I was their first port of call for questions of any nature, from the appropriate structure for an aggregate table, to a domain-specific question about the data itself.

MicroStrategy Architect (contract position, 2 renewals)
Multinational banking and financial services corporation
August 2011 to April 2012
Technologies: MicroStrategy, Netezza, Informatica

This position covered the remediation of a number of legacy reports to the MicroStrategy platform. Working with the data modelling team, I advised on best practices from the database perspective for our reporting requirements. I managed a team of contractors, leading the schema development on the project, and also collaborated with the legacy team on analysis of the reports being replaced. Interaction with the users was also essential, as we iteratively teased out additional functional and non-functional requirements from the large user base not captured in the initial analysis. My role also involved being the liaison between the testing team and the report development team, putting in place a process that enabled the rapid turnaround of bug fixes, and the automation of regression testing for our suite of reports.

MicroStrategy Architect (contract position, 4 renewals)
Major UK financial institution
July 2010 to July 2011
Technologies: MicroStrategy, Microsoft SQL Server, Sybase ASE

Working on a green field BI project in the Treasury & Trading department, I worked on both front-end reporting (on MicroStrategy 8.1.2 and 9.0.2) and the backend database design and ETL processes. This involved working with front office staff to capture and deliver their requirements, designing the database schema, and building ETL processes using SSIS and database-side code. A variety of dashboards and reports provided trading desk with near real-time exposure reporting.

MicroStrategy Architect (contract position, 6 renewals)
Multinational mass media corporation
June 2008 to July 2010
Technologies: MicroStrategy, Microsoft SQL Server, Informatica

In the department responsible for all IT outside North America, I performed several roles, ranging from design and build of completely new BI reporting areas, to the optimisation of existing functions. In addition I mentored and advised less experienced members of staff, and consulted on best practices for newly initiated and on-going BI projects, as well as planned and potential software upgrades. This involved working in team that was geographically diverse, from mainland Europe to USA. I was responsible for the company's MicroStrategy upgrade from version 8.1.0 to 9.0.1.

Analyst/Developer (permanent position)
UK commodities exchange
Feb 2008 to June 2008
Technologies: MicroStrategy, Oracle

Working with the Compliance department, I initiated a remodelling of their MicroStrategy reporting schema, both on the database side, and the logical reporting side, to facilitate full use of the platform. Having undertaken the initial analysis, changes were made to allow all the entire department access to the relevant information. In addition to this work, I also completed a proof-of-concept MI dashboard application, working with senior internal staff to capture their requirements, and put together a working model to demonstrate the flexibility and utility that this type of BI can provide.

Data Warehouse Analyst/Developer (permanent position)
Leading Lloyd's of London underwriting firm
January 2005 to January 2008
Technologies: MicroStrategy, Microsoft SQL Server

Based in the data warehouse team in the Group IS department, I covered the complete end-to-end warehouse process. Involved in designing and developing load processes from both externally provided data (comprising text files and spreadsheets), and internal systems (databases using both SQL Server 2000 and Sybase ASE 12), I regularly used the full SQL Server 2000 toolset, including DTS, to enhance and extend both the breadth and depth of information made available to the business. The nature of this position also involved both schema design, and report building within the MicroStrategy BI platform. I also used the MicroStrategy Web SDK to make both cosmetic and functional enhancements. I worked to develop a suite of weekly and monthly Narrowcast e-mail reports to provide the underwriting staff with accurate and timely information. As a mentor to a number of our "power users", I had regular contact with our internal clients across several areas of the business.

Data Warehouse Analyst (permanent position)
UK magazine distribution firm
April 2003 to January 2005
Technologies: MicroStrategy, Oracle

Working on all aspects of the MicroStrategy platform, from designing and building projects, advanced report design, through to user, system and server administration, I worked closely with our data architect on the schema of a new data warehouse, and implemented changes in the reporting layer to leverage previously unused RDBMS functionality to improve performance. I also worked closely with end users to facilitate optimisation and extension of the system's usage.

Business Analyst (contract position)
UK magazine distribution firm
September 2002 to April 2003
Technologies: MicroStrategy, Oracle, Access, Excel

In the Marketing Services department, I was responsible for streamlining and automating the production of weekly and monthly market analysis reports. This involved taking data from a wide variety of sources, and creating a process based on Excel and Access to enable more time to be spent on analysing data than the compilation process.

IT Analyst/Developer (permanent position)
Online UK execution-only stockbroker
June 2000 to April 2002
Technologies: Perl, PHP, Sybase ASE

My role was company-wide, at times involving both front and back office systems, including building a prototype bespoke intranet-based workflow system, a set of batch processes to retrieve daily management statistics, and performing business analysis for larger projects. I gained experience of working across multiple countries and languages as I liaised with our London and Paris development teams regularly. I was also called upon to give presentations and produce formal documentation at various stages of the project lifecycle, which required excellent verbal and written skills, and a professional appearance and attitude.