Stephen Kenneth Powell

2917 McKee Road ◆ Erie, PA 16506 ◆ steve@lafiya.com

Home: (814) 790-5666 ◆ Cell: (814) 566-2780

Information Technology Manager

- 30 years in business systems development, with the last 17 being primarily in strategic business analysis and program / project management.
- Broad business background across a range of business types, encompassing the full view of business practices, including customer management, rather than simply the internal IT viewpoint.
- Experience of multi-million dollar budget responsibility.
- Good communication and team building skills, including building relationships with third party suppliers and external customers.
- Experience of the full development life cycle and comfortable with balancing the classic cost, time and quality constraints applying to projects.
- Use of methodologies and tools in project planning and management practices.
- Permanent US resident with full permanent immigrant visa with unrestricted rights to work in the USA – no need for visa sponsorship or transfer.

Professional Experience

IT Program Manager
Royal Bank of Scotland International, Isle of Man, United Kingdom 1998 - 2008

Managed the delivery of an IT program of work in support of the strategic business plan for the International division of this global bank. Contributed to IT strategy as a member of the senior management team. Responsible for the efficient utilization of a $4.6 million annual budget to deliver best competitive advantage.

- Led the IT integration activities arising from the acquisition of a number of banks, including the International program necessary following the RBS Group $42 billion takeover of NatWest. Involved in the preliminary stages of the ABN Amro integration. Developed the in-house manual for the integration of acquired banks onto the core banking systems platform.
- Introduced a number of continuous improvement programs into the IT division resulting in a 25% improvement in time to market for development projects.
- Acted as a process expert for IT development and mentored the careers of junior development and project management staff.
- Managed a team of Project Managers, developers and third party organizations across dispersed locations to deliver mandatory, regulatory requirements as well as strategic business initiatives.

IT Project Manager
Parcelforce, Post Office, Chesterfield, United Kingdom 1988 - 1998

Managed the delivery of IT projects in support of operational plans for the parcel division of the British Post Office. Acted as a customer consultant, negotiating and dealing with both potential and current customers as regards systems interfaces between themselves and Parcelforce to provide competitive advantage. Responsible for a $3 million budget supporting customer retention initiatives.

- Led the development of a Dispatch Manager system that (as at 1997) was installed in over 1,800 large customer sites in competition with systems from other parcel carrier organizations.
- Performed Quality Assurance roles on internal IT developments to ensure that customer service elements included appropriate customer focus elements.
- Proposed and subsequently led the implementation of an online customer parcel tracking process, delivering both cost savings of around 20c per parcel and also competitive advantage.
- Proposed (as part of MBA dissertation) a new model for interaction between a large organization and third party development teams.

IT Operations & Development Manager
Ashaka Cement, Bauchi, Nigeria 1986 – 1988

Responsible for overall management of the systems development and day to day IT operations for the second largest cement producer in Nigeria. Managed the training and development of local staff to improve efficiency. Introduced an 85% reduction in off-line batch processing allowing the IT processes to deliver more benefits in a 24/7 production environment.

Programming & Development Manager
The Sellers Group, Leeds, United Kingdom 1980 – 1986

Programmer & Systems Designer
NCR Limited, Leeds, United Kingdom 1978 - 1980

Education

Masters In Business Administration (MBA) in Information Management (Sheffield Hallam University, UK, 1992)

Registered PRINCE2 Project Management Practitioner (since 2003, recertified in 2008)

Currently studying to convert PRINCE2 Project certification to PMP certification

Professional Affiliations

Chartered Member of the British Computer Society (MBCS CITP)

Professional Member of the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM)

Member of the Project Management Institute (PMI)