

INTERNET PRODUCT CREATION, DEVELOPMENT, LAUNCH, & COMMERCIALIZATION

Top-producing and innovative executive and entrepreneur with 20-year history of leveraging technology and the Internet to attract consumers (5M new users in four months), significantly boost revenues (300% increase), and launch highly popular websites (150K unique users and 1M impressions, monthly). Product development specialist adept at seeing 360° view of products, and coordinating business, marketing, engineering, project, editorial, and design sides. Motivating leader with experience directing 100+ team members across the US, Europe, Asia and the Middle East. Apply consultative approach in effective problem solving, teambuilding, and client relations. Focus primarily on early-stage products and prototypes.

CORE LEADERSHIP STRENGTHS

Strategic Planning & Execution
Product Development & Positioning
Process & Product Improvement

Product Lifecycle Management
Global Business Growth
Solution-Focused Leadership

Technology Innovation
Partnership Building
Agile Development

SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT SKILLS

PHP, Python
HTML / CSS / JS / JQuery
MySQL, Postgres

Elasticsearch, Solr
NLP: Stanford, Watson, NLTK
Neutral Network: OpenNN, FANN

Data Visualization: D3
Geo: Leaflet, GeoJSON, ArcGIS
Fun: Alexa, Home Automation

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT – Washington, DC

2015 – Present

VICE PRESIDENT, ENTREPRENEUR-IN-RESIDENCE

Primarily responsible for the launch of the new Real Estate vertical, including the flagship Best Places to Live product. Post-launch, focus was on rapid testing of new product concepts and ideas, including an automated platform to assemble auto incentives and deals in realtime, a single-view of all car reviews across the Internet, a NLP-based analysis of Twitter feeds, data visualization in realtime leveraging relationships between arbitrary datasets, automatic generation of infographics based on user-created templates, an overhaul of the search infrastructure (to Elastic) and about 200 gigabytes of other data products.

GANNETT – Tysons Corner, VA

2013 – 2015

SENIOR DIRECTOR, PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT

Ran product development and engineering for a flash-sale and realtime deals site at Gannett, and launched a test of a full subscription-based publication called NowU, going from plan to live, public launch in four months.

PITNEY BOWES – Stamford, CT

2012 – Present

Developing a new consumer service called Volly. Volly will be a secure digital mailbox for all bills, statements and notices.

SENIOR DIRECTOR, PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT - VOLLY**LIQUIDITY SERVICES, INC.** – Washington, D.C.

2009 – 2012

\$400M international company (US, UK, and Canada) providing reverse logistics and asset recovery services, involving selling end-of-life, scrap, and salvage for government and commercial entities to B2B and B2C clients.

SENIOR DIRECTOR, PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT/B2C – Following LSI's acquisition of Dycern (to add B2C functionality), tasked with integrating both companies' systems, tools, and processes. Consolidated systems and directed operations for B2C side of the eCommerce business for the ARD Division. In January 2011, handpicked to drive product strategy and development (front and backend) company-wide, across four divisions and eight brands. Oversaw the design and implementation of an indexed corporate-wide product catalog for all business units.

- Generated 10% increase in sell-through for fixed-price business by specifying and building an automated pricing feature that correctly prices items according to current market conditions.
- Grew business post-acquisition to \$15M run rate at an average 40% gross margin.
- Hired and expanded internal product team to grow B2C sales to exceed \$1M per month
- Currently supervise six product and project managers in the execution of product development company-wide.
- Created first mobile applications for GovDeals Division, with 2011 deployment to other divisions.
- Led implementation of Salesforce integration across multiple instances, producing a joint CRM system.

DYSCERN LLC – Sterling, VA

2004 – 2009

\$9.3M B2C eCommerce company, repairing and selling refurbished customer-returned electronics on own website and through partnerships with eBay, Amazon, Buy.com, uBid, and Overstock.com.

CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER AND CO-FOUNDER – Strategized, initiated, and built Dycern from a basement reverse logistics and eCommerce startup to a warehouse-based multichannel retailing organization. Oversaw day-to-day operation of the company and product development. Created and implemented sourcing strategy, working with major electronics retailers in the US and Europe to bring in post-sale goods for refurbishment and resale. Defined requirements and implemented systems to monitor and measure sales, average prices, and pricing trends. Developed predictive model for high-risk customers to enable business to target customers needing less support. Earned ranking among *Inc.* 500 companies in 2007 and 2008.

- Implemented multichannel eCommerce strategy that grew annual sales from \$500K to \$9M in four years.
- Directed transition from home-based operation to 10,000 sq. ft. facility employing 25 people; built remote customer service operation from scratch, with employees in Jackson, MI and Lahore, Pakistan.
- Established strategies that enabled Dycern to maintain a 15% pricing premium within its verticals.
- Launched Tradeups as a 50/50 joint venture with Marketvelocity to recycle consumer electronics.
- Led spinoff (Cagic LLC) to build a premium digital frame, with English, French, Spanish, and Portuguese versions, working daily with teams in China and Taiwan on design, manufacturing, and packaging, including onsite work in Asia.

AMERICA ONLINE (AOL) – Dulles, VA

1998 – 2004

Fast-tracked with AOL, earning three promotions in six years. Demonstrated versatility by excelling in manager and director positions within community, search, product, news, and member services areas.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, PERSONALIZATION (December 2002 – March 2004) – Led research project to conceptualize and develop a platform to intuitively personalize each member's experience based on individual interests and profile.

- Deployed test systems which could classify and analyze multiple-terabyte log files daily to glean usage patterns and interests across more than 20M subscribers, worldwide.

DIRECTOR, ORGANIZER PRODUCTS (April 2002 – November 2002) – Handpicked, due to accelerated launch cycle, to build team from scratch and oversee development and deployment of Alerts, and Reminders in 126 days, as part of AOL 8.0 launch. At peak, supervised 110 people in Ireland, California, and Virginia.

- Outperformed already aggressive target by completing product development in 63 days.
- Acquired 2M new users within 60 days and 5M within four months of Alerts and Reminders deployment.
- Implemented business plan for deriving partner revenue from AOL Alerts and Reminders product.

DIRECTOR, CHANNEL PRODUCT MANAGEMENT (December 2001 – April 2002) – Planned and started implementation of a system to handle dynamic content on the AOL service; system was deployed in late 2002.

- Designed new publishing system for AOL local properties to allow for complete editorial control of the look and feel of particular page templates.

DIRECTOR, LOCAL PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT (January 2001 – November 2001) – Led first concept of targeting ads based on geography (Town Pages product) and laid foundation to start localization by zip code on home page, giving search the knowledge of where you are, every time you executed a search.

- Re-conceptualized, developed, and launched new local search application, which was innovative in 2001.

DIRECTOR, CORE PRODUCTS (June 2000 – January 2001) – Launched the next-generation personalization product, My AOL, to increase member adoption rate. Planned and launched redesign of AOL.com, placing greater emphasis on features and providing, for the first time, a unified sign-on experience outside the AOL client.

- Initiatives increased successful registrations from 35% to 65%.
- Planned and launched Newsletter 1.0 product, which centralized newsletter distribution across AOL. Product successfully registered 500K new users in less than three months.

ACTING DIRECTOR, COMMUNITY (November 1999 – June 2000) – Managed operations of all community products, including Chat, Message Boards, and Hometown. Developed and deployed the Community Center concept, which centralized community applications by topic for easy access by members.

- Planned and launched the Groups@AOL product which grew to 100K groups within first four months.

SENIOR PRODUCT MANAGER, AOL SEARCH (March 1999 – November 1999) – Conceptualized and built AOL's first homegrown Web search product within six months. Initiated and deployed Recommended Sites product, which provided targeted search results listings programmed by an editorial team.

- Increased search volume by 25% and search revenue in one year from \$15M to \$60M by implementing a targeted search inventory system that was tightly integrated with AOL's ad sales organization.
- Recommended Sites product increased targeted clickthrough rate from 3% to 19% upon deployment.

PRODUCT MANAGER, MY NEWS (January 1998 – February 1999) – Led bicoastal matrixed team in Dulles, VA and San Mateo, CA in creating My News, an automated news and personalization product for use on AOL.com. Established requirements, set goals, and delivered product from start to finish.

- Led product from launch through its first 2M members in six months.
- In less than two hours, put the first fully indexed and searchable copy of the Starr Report on the Internet.
- Team won company award for delivering project on time while working on opposite sides of the country.

WASHINGTONPOST.NEWSWEEK INTERACTIVE – Arlington, VA

1995 – 1997

Identified and coordinated implementation of new editorial projects, technologies, and applications for online news.

ONLINE PRODUCER/MAD SCIENTIST, WASHINGTONPOST.COM, ELECTIONLINE, AND DIGITAL INK – Examined new ways of integrating existing information and content on the site. Performed “utility in-fielding” for projects, involving organizing, formatting, and uploading large quantities of content. Created two dozen databases.

- Deployed World Reference, the first comprehensive international reference section in the online world. A later generation of the effort is still available on Washingtonpost.com.
- Launched, in real time, the first comprehensive background and profile package on the Heaven’s Gate mass suicide, within 12 hours of the story breaking.
- Implemented “autolinking” where related material is automatically linked to stories.
- Conceptualized, developed, and launched Weatherpost, the first weather forecasting site on Washingtonpost.com.
- Built and launched the first Business Section of the online edition of *The Washington Post*.

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

CANTYMEDIA – Great Falls, VA

1999 – Present

Umbrella for web projects. Weatherbase is the internet's largest database of historical weather averages, referenced in four dozen books, in 450+ Wikipedia articles, and with 50,000+ links via Google. Serves 150K unique users and 1M impressions, monthly.

FOUNDER – Planned, scoped, developed, and implemented the Weatherbase.com website, the largest consumer database of historical weather on the Internet, with more than 18,000 cities covered in every country in the world. Grew site from scratch into one of the most definitive sources of weather averages, and maintains status as the de facto weather reference source on Wikipedia.

- Developed and coded entire site, including design, HTML, scripting, search engine, and database architecture with algorithms that normalize 24+ weather data sources into a clean consumer-friendly view.
- Created guerrilla marketing plan which led to press mentions in *Time Magazine*, *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, and more than two dozen other major media outlets, worldwide.
- Built licensing model to syndicate historical weather data to greater than three dozen sites on the Internet, generating \$20K annually in recurring subscription revenue.
- Deployed viral marketing campaign that has 60% of site traffic coming organically vs. via a search engine.
- Created and licensed iPhone app for \$.99 with late summer 2011 launch and Android app to follow.
- Implemented automation plan that now requires less than one hour per month to maintain the business.

EDUCATION & CREDENTIALS

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY – East Lansing, MI

Bachelor of Arts in Journalism; Minor in Russian Language and Studies

Appointment: Selected by Governor of Virginia in 2004 to HJR 176 – Joint Subcommittee to Study the Impact of Collecting Remote Sales Taxes on the Economy of the Commonwealth.

Patents:

- US Patent #20080154967: Sharing online media experiences
- US Patent #D587910: Design of digital picture frame
- US Patent #20040177057: Method and apparatus providing omnibus view of online and offline content of various file types and sources
- US Patent Application #12/714,889: A system and method of executing an electronic transaction using an embedded trading control

Technology: Expert knowledge of HTML and PHP, proficient in JavaScript, Perl, XML, MySQL, and CSS. Adept at using dozens of applications, including MS Office, Photoshop, and Illustrator. Able to quickly learn new programming languages. Extensive website design and UI experience, spanning 15 years.

Foreign Languages: Conversant in Spanish and Russian