Wajahat H. Naqvi, MBA, Senior IT Project Manager, MOD SC Cleared

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Profile

I have over 30 years' IT experience including over 15 years' experience of successful project management of IT infrastructure and software application delivery projects, using both Agile and Waterfall methodologies, having delivered the projects within the time, budget, quality and performance constraints. I have managed delivery of these projects end to end including PIDS, RAID, Change Management, Stakeholder Management and Finances at MI-GSO|PCUBED, Atkins, HPE (Hewlett-Packard Enterprise), Motorola, QinetiQ and PFG (Provident Financial Group). I have also been employed in various IT roles at BAE Systems.

Key Achievements:

- I was commended by the MOD customer for successfully project managing the delivery of a high-profile project, the DLE (Defence Learning Environment), which had a user base of c.300K MOD users worldwide. This project had a budget of £4.6M, life cycle of 2.5 years and a project team consisting of 15 technical experts including engineers from 3rd parties.

- I saved the company c. £700K in office building lease costs by successfully completing an office relocation project within the required timescales despite some difficult technical challenges.

- I delivered key project security accreditation documentation within short timescales and to a high-quality standard by utilising excellent communication, negotiation, influencing and stakeholder relationship management skills.

Professional Experience

MI-GSO|PCUBED, London, UK   **Apr. 2022 – Present**

Senior Consultant

My main role here has been the project management of one of the workstreams, while being placed within the MOD team, across the Technical, Finance and Commercial functions within the Tempest programme. Tempest programme is a complex collaborative programme between MOD, DSTL, BAE Systems, Rolls Royce, Leonardo UK and MBDA UK that will deliver the next generation combat aircraft.

The workstream I project managed had a budget of c.£225M over an 8-year period working mainly with BAE Systems as the supplier.

- Achieved full knowledge and got up to speed quickly regarding all aspects of this complex programme.

- Led delivery of important contractual changes successfully to some tight delivery timelines.

- Managed disparate stakeholders successfully, having built excellent relationships with all teams.

Atkins, Aldershot, Hampshire, UK   **Mar. 2020 – Apr. 2022**

Senior IT Project Manager

I have been responsible for end-to-end project management of high-profile projects within the Defence and Transportation sectors while being employed with Atkins, including successful delivery of projects at the leading edge within the Digital Twin space. Digital Twin related projects have been based around carrying out an analysis regarding Netzero and automation of road maintenance processes using AI regarding the UK national highways road network infrastructure.

Career Break   **Jul. 2019 – Feb. 2020**

Taking various career development courses inc. Agile/ScrumMaster, ITIL and PMP (Project Management Professional) qualifications, and spending the Summer holidays with my family. Also, I joined the Toastmasters organisation during this period so that I can further improve my communication, leadership and presentation skills.

Motorola, Basingstoke, Hampshire, UK   **Contract, Mar. 2019 – Jun. 2019**
Senior IT Project Manager

I was responsible for end-to-end programme management of ESN (Emergency Services Network) Connect/Connect+ product delivery while leading matrix teams comprising business analysts, security SMEs, solution architects, developers, testers and service design and transition specialists. The ESN customer was the Home Office (HO) and there were c.300k individual end users of the ESN communication network.

- Achieved full knowledge of Connect/Connect+ product functionality despite a steep learning curve. I achieved this through developing excellent relationships and establishing clear and regular communication channels, thus delivered the elements of the programme I was responsible for within the required time, financial and quality constraints.

Motorola took cognisance of the upcoming IR35 Contractor rules in June 2019 with regard to all contractors employed on the ESN programme. Hence, my contract with Motorola/ESN came to an end in June 2019 due to this review.

Career Break   **Dec. 2018 - Feb. 2019**

Looking after my father, who was critically ill at the time, and looking for my next role.

QinetiQ, Farnborough, Hampshire, UK   **Contract, Oct. 2017 – Nov. 2018**
Senior IT Project Manager

IT Project Management of several IT application and infrastructure projects to cost, time and quality constraints while leading matrix teams consisting of application developers, networks engineers, solution architects, business analysts and enterprise architects. Projects delivered successfully include MS ATA (Cyber Security project), AnyConnect (remote working solution), Virtual Hosting Platform migration to the cloud. Also successfully delivered MS SCCM upgrade project, including other components of the MS Windows 10 solution, during a companywide Windows 10 upgrade programme, impacting more than 6,000 end users throughout the world.

Successfully led teams of experts through the project life cycle utilising both Waterfall and Agile methodologies; from concept to project definition and requirements, to design, to implementation and test through to cut over to live, early life support and service transition into Operations. Achieved this while adhering to the company's project governance framework.

- Demonstrated strong leadership by leading a team of technical experts and facilitating a series of workshops to resolve several challenging technical issues during a complex project implementation stage thereby delivering the project successfully.

- Led a series of workshops where I communicated the steps required and the precautions etc. to be taken prior to implementing a solution into a live production environment and transitioning the solution to Operations via Early Life Support. The Programme Manager commended me for the invaluable advice I provided during the workshops.

- Facilitated a collaborative team environment by enhancing communication between various teams such that very limited technical resources could be utilised effectively, thus helping to complete several projects to the required time, quality and cost constraints.

I was employed with QinetiQ on an initial 3-month contract, and my contract was renewed at 3-month intervals. QinetiQ operate a corporate policy whereby they renew contracts every 3 months as opposed to issuing longer contracts.

Career Break   **Apr. 2017 - Sep. 2017**

Spending the Summer holidays with my family, taking career development courses and looking for my next role.

Provident Financial Group, Bradford, UK   **Contract, Oct. 2016 - Mar. 2017**
Senior IT Project Manager

IT Project Management of multiple complex, digital, software delivery projects that were part of a change/transformation implementation programme and delivered functionality to route agents in the field to customers that had fallen in to arrears with regard to their loan payments.

Led teams throughout the SDLC, i.e. led a team of systems analysts, solution architects, IT environment specialists, application developers and testers, and 3rd party suppliers, ensuring that the projects were implemented, tested and transitioned in to live within the given timescales, financial and quality constraints.

MS Azure was used as the database for the applications.

Successfully delivered projects using both Waterfall and Agile methodologies.

- Utilised organisational, documentation and communication skills in order to document and communicate new processes so that projects could flow smoothly through their life cycle. This helped to transition projects in to live, and early life support, in a project environment that was in its very early stages and, hence, processes were still evolving.

- Demonstrated agility, leadership, organisation and communication skills and successfully delivered an additional project, not in the original plans, within the time and budget constraints without compromising on quality.

- Networked, built lasting relationships, demonstrated fortitude and empathy, and used excellent interpersonal and communication skills to manage multiple stakeholders with conflicting interests.

My contract with PFG came to an end following the successful delivery of the projects I was employed on.

HPE (Hewlett-Packard Enterprise), DII (F) programme, Hook, UK   **Apr. 2014 – Sep. 2016**
IT Project Manager, Defence Learning Environment (DLE).
Project management of the DLE (software application with c.300K users, that facilitates blended learning for the MOD, UK) digital project throughout the application life cycle using a combination of both Waterfall and Agile methodologies. Took end to end ownership of this transformation/change implementation project. The role encompassed both project management and project support responsibilities, project budget was c. £4.6M.

- Evaluated various technical options by organizing a series of strategic workshops to arrive at a robust technical infrastructure design such that no major application performance issues were experienced despite the very large application user base.

- Demonstrated leadership and technical problem-solving skills by dealing with complexity in an organised and structured manner by delivering the project online help guides within short time scales and to customer satisfaction.

HPE (Hewlett-Packard Enterprise), DII (F) programme, Hook, UK   **Feb. 2009 - Mar. 2014**
IT Project Manager
Project management of various IT infrastructure projects involving project management of various staff moves and the associated IT network infrastructure from one office building to another. Also, in parallel with this, project management of introduction of new key IT networks, and decommissioning of other IT networks, to consortium partner buildings entailing multiple vendors. Project budgets ranging from £100K to over £1M.

- Collaborated with the programme team in creating and driving forward a key office move 'Go To Green' project plan by demonstrating excellent team working, organisational, technical competence and communication skills such that the programme was completed within the budget and time constraints. As a result, the project sponsor (a very senior manager within HPE Defence) commented that it would not have been possible to complete the project on time without the key contributions from me. The timely completion of the project meant that the company did not need to extend the lease of the office move source building. The company saved c.£700K in lease costs as a result.

Various IT Software related roles, UK   **Aug. 1995 – Jan. 2009**
Various software related roles including Software support / development, Software Development Team Lead and Software Configuration Management.

Education and Training
- PRINCE 2 Certification.
- MBA (Durham University), Result: Pass with Merit.
- BSc. (Hons) Computer Science (University of Wolverhampton), Result: 2:1.
- SAFe 6 (Scaled Agile Framework) Agilist Certification (April, 2024).
- APMG Change Management Certification (June, 2024).
- Mental Health Awareness Certification (June, 2024).

Additional information
- Toastmasters International and PMI (Project Management Institute) Member.
- **Full and valid SC Clearance (expiry date: 09/12/2031).**
- Hobbies include Cricket, travelling and reading extensively on various subjects.