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Top Skills

International Business

Loan Documents

Project Management Office (PMO)

Maksym Cherkis

Developing Ukrainian Defence Tech | International Cooperation |
R&D and Innovations in Miltech
Ukraine

Summary

I have been involved in the implementation of projects for more than 15 years. Private, business, financial, software, hardware and Miltech. Turnkey project implementation, from strategy, concept description, team building, budgeting, partner search, implementation, to reporting and closing.

Experience

STARK

COO in Ukraine

January 2025 - Present (1 year)

Munich, Bavaria, Germany

A New Chapter in European Defence

Defence Builder

R&D and innovations advisory

July 2024 - September 2025 (1 year 3 months)

- Assist startups and companies in establishing and optimizing their R&D departments, ensuring they are equipped to drive innovation and technological advancements.
- Design and implement efficient project workflows that facilitate smooth transitions from research and prototyping to full-scale production, ensuring alignment with project goals and timelines.
- Oversee the transfer of prototypes to mass production, addressing scalability, manufacturing challenges, and quality control to ensure successful product launches.
- Lead efforts to scale innovative technologies and solutions, guiding companies through the necessary steps to expand their R&D outputs and commercialize new products.
- Identify and engage with potential partners, including research institutions, technology providers, and industry experts, to integrate cutting-edge innovations into R&D projects and accelerate development.

- Track the progress of R&D projects, providing strategic guidance and adjustments as needed to ensure objectives are met and innovations are successfully implemented.
- Mentor R&D teams, offering guidance on best practices, innovation strategies, and project management, while fostering a culture of continuous learning and improvement.
- Lead the identification and adoption of emerging technologies, methodologies, and processes that can enhance R&D capabilities and drive the accelerator's mission forward.
- Work closely with internal and external stakeholders, including company founders, technical teams, and industry partners, to ensure R&D projects align with strategic goals and deliver value.
- Ensure all R&D activities comply with industry regulations and standards, while proactively managing risks associated with innovation and technological development.

NDA

2 years 1 month

Research and Development Project Manager

September 2023 - September 2025 (2 years 1 month)

Kyiv City, Ukraine

- Planning and managing R&D projects.
- Leading and motivating cross-functional teams
- Communicating with stakeholders
- Managing project budgets and resources
- Ensuring the quality and timely delivery of project deliverables
- Identifying and evaluating new product and process development opportunities
- Working with customers to define product requirements and specifications
- Managing the development and testing of new products and processes
- Transferring new products and processes to manufacturing
- Continuous improvement of the R&D process

Head of Project Management Office

October 2023 - July 2024 (10 months)

Kyiv City, Ukraine

- Provide strategic leadership and oversight for the Project Management Office (PMO) within the R&D center

- Ensure effective project management practices are implemented and followed across all R&D initiatives, contributing to the successful and timely completion of projects within budget and scope
- Foster a collaborative and results-oriented environment within the PMO team, promoting professional development and continuous improvement
- Develop and implement the PMO's strategic vision and roadmap, aligning it with the R&D center's overall goals and objectives
- Conduct portfolio analysis to prioritize and select R&D projects based on strategic fit, feasibility, and potential impact
- Collaborate with senior leadership to ensure PMO activities support the R&D center's strategic direction
- Establish and maintain a robust project management framework, including standardized processes, methodologies, and tools
- Lead and mentor the PMO team, fostering a culture of collaboration, continuous improvement, and professional growth
- Recruit, select, and develop high-performing project management professionals with expertise relevant to R&D projects
- Maintain clear and consistent communication with stakeholders, including project sponsors, technical teams

Ministry for Strategic Industries

Advisor

April 2024 - July 2025 (1 year 4 months)

PettersonApps

Product Manager

May 2021 - August 2023 (2 years 4 months)

Uzhhorod, Zakarpattya, Ukraine

Established a successful track record of project management and product improvement through the use of customer evaluations and needs.

Led and prioritized product requirements for several clients, managing development timelines to meet expectations.

Demonstrated flexibility in working with the UX research team to regularly test product usability and ensure optimal user experience.

Utilized comprehensive product evaluations to identify successful strategies and drive future development goals.

Understand the business needs and translate them into technical requirements.

International Airport Uzhgorod

Deputy Director

February 2020 - May 2021 (1 year 4 months)

Uzhhorod Raion, Zakarpattya, Ukraine

Combine roles of CEO & CFO

Successfully coordinated all enterprise activities in accordance with the 2021-2024 strategic plan, demonstrating a strong understanding of strategic management.

Demonstrated advanced networking skills through fruitful collaborations with public authorities, which resulted in the successful implementation of the state airport development program.

Led various units of the organization to improve efficiency, resulting in a 100% increase in income from aviation operations.

Freelance

Consultant and Project Manager, Independent

August 2015 - February 2020 (4 years 7 months)

Kiev/Uzhgorod

Conducted due diligence of operational activities, demonstrating ability to assess business environments accurately.

Utilized established network to build and increase the portfolio of export operations of agricultural products, demonstrating strong networking abilities.

Proactively developed business strategies, automated business processes, and implemented CRM, BPM, and ERP systems, showcasing strategic thinking and technological proficiency.

Ukrhydroenergo

Project manager, Foreign Investments Attraction and Project Management Department

December 2011 - August 2015 (3 years 9 months)

Ukraine, Vyshgorod

Managed multiple large-scale projects financed by international bodies (EBRD, MBRR, EIB), showcasing capability to handle complex and multinational projects.

Managed international and local tenders.

Utilized strong communication skills to facilitate stakeholder communications, ensuring alignment and smooth project execution.

Swedbank

3 years 4 months

Senior credit analyst (Financial Restructuring & Recovery)

September 2009 - November 2011 (2 years 3 months)

Kyiv City, Ukraine

VIP-Manager, Corporate department

August 2008 - September 2009 (1 year 2 months)

Kyiv, Kyiv City, Ukraine

Organize team for proper work with Large Corporate Customers.

Development of new relations by attracting new Large Corporate Customers despite on industry by selling whole existed in bank products.

Observance target balance between credit and deposit portfolio.

Initiation and taking participation with project under syndicated loans for corporate customers.

Financial restructure and recovery of problem loans.

EFG International

Large Corporates' Relationship Manager

November 2007 - August 2008 (10 months)

Kyiv, Kyiv City, Ukraine

Develop corporate business at Universal Bank:

Attraction of new large corporate clients,

Support of mutual relations with clients,

Development of client base and achievement of the purposes on development of business,

Active management and coordination by all kinds of bank services,

Sale of wide range of corporate products, including financing of working capital, project financing, documentary credit operations and etc,

Financial analysis of borrower,

Prepare credit conclusion for credit committee,

The conclusion of credit contracts.

UKRSIBBANK BNP Paribas Group

Expert, Large-scale Corporate Clients' Centr

December 2006 - November 2007 (1 year)

Kyiv, Kyiv City, Ukraine

Cash and settlement services

Lending operations

International trade financing

Documentary operations

Deposits

Trade Finance Center

PRAVEX BANK Official (INTESA SANPAOLO GROUP)

Head of division

April 2006 - December 2006 (9 months)

Kyiv, Kyiv City, Ukraine

Support and develop money transfer systems in Bank and Bank-partners

Business process development (procedures, technologies, front-office work outline)

Co-develop Western Union & MoneyGram brand in Ukraine

Project owner (procedures consulting)

Instructions, rules and regulations created

Employ testing

Education

Kyiv National Economics University

Master, Finance · (2007 - 2010)

MIM-Kyiv

Financial Statements Analysis · (2009 - 2009)

Ernst & Young's Academy of Business

Financial Analysis · (2006 - 2006)

National Academy of SSU

Specialist, Law · (2003 - 2006)

Evropejs'kij Universitet Finansiv, Informacijnih Sistem, Menedment ta Bisnesu, Kiiv

Specialist, Management · (2001 - 2006)