Andrew Drooker

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PROFILE

With over 25 years of experience in advanced and emerging technology products, I have honed my expertise at renowned companies such as Fiserv, UPS, The Weather Channel, and Turner Broadcasting. My skill set includes proficiency in Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence, Cloud and Big Data technologies, analytics, gaming, Media Distribution, Cloud services, Mobile Applications, Logistics, digital services, entertainment, telephony, CRM, and FinTech. I have successfully managed capital budgets of up to $125M and operating budgets of $100M. By building and leading global teams of up to 150+ FTEs along with offshore resources, I have consistently driven business productivity growth exceeding 20% through the implementation of innovative technology solutions.

WORK EXPERIENCE

📅 03/2023 – PRESENT 📍 NAIROBI, KENYA

Chief Strategy Officer for Technology, Innovation and AI
Equity Bank

- Spearheading the development and implementation of strategic plans to drive innovation and growth in technology and AI, projecting a 20% increase in market share within 2 years.
- Led cross-functional teams in identifying and evaluating emerging technologies and trends to inform decision-making executives and drive competitive advantage.
- Directed the execution of strategic initiatives to enhance "back-office" processes which would drive operational efficiencies, projecting a net savings of a 15% reduction in costs.
- Established partnerships with key stakeholders and industry leaders to drive collaboration and foster a culture of continuous learning and innovation within the organization.

📅 08/2020 – 03/2023 📍 ATLANTA, UNITED STATES

CTO
The Gem Shopping Network

- Spearheaded the development and implementation

WORK EXPERIENCE

of a comprehensive strategic technology plan, resulting in a 20% increase in operational efficiency and cost savings.
- Led a team of 50+ engineers and developers in the successful launch of a new product, achieving a 30% increase in user engagement and retention.
- Implemented cutting-edge cybersecurity measures to protect company data and infrastructure, resulting in a 50% reduction in security breaches.
- Streamlined IT processes and workflows, resulting in a 25% decrease in downtime and improved overall system reliability.

📅 01/2020 – 05/2020 📍 ATLANTA, UNITED STATES

GCTO
FISERV

- Directed operational support, solutions engineering, and GIO portfolio management for a major business vertical at First Data, a subsidiary of Fiserv
- Led a 65-member team, reporting directly to the CIO
- Collaborated with multiple DevOps teams in various business segments to implement large mid-range and mainframe platform transaction processing solutions on multi-tier architectures as SaaS
- Initiated, conceptualized, and managed the execution of a major consolidation project, integrating 56 primary and secondary data centers into 24, resulting in over $10M in net savings in one year
- Designed and launched a new mobile application for 200+ credit unions nationwide, enabling additional services for over 10 million customers within two weeks after the release of Federal Stimulus funds
- Independently transitioned over 200 client-facing secure websites from in-house hosting to a private cloud Azure model, saving the company over $5M within the first month of employment.

📅 01/2018 – 12/2019 📍 ATLANTA, UNITED STATES

CTO
Peachcap

- Spearheaded IT operations optimization at

WORK EXPERIENCE

Peachcap, resulting in streamlined processes and enhanced security measures
- Achieved over $275K in annual cost savings through strategic initiatives
- Reported directly to the President and collaborated with the SEC to ensure compliance with security and certification requirements
- Successfully initiated and managed IT migration to a complete virtualization initiative, consolidating all functions onto two fully mirrored sites and generating over $75K in annual cost savings
- Implemented cloud-based technologies to automate labor-intensive daily tasks, resulting in $200K+ in savings and enabling account executives to securely access client account positions in real-time.

📅 07/2013 – 12/2017 📍 ATLANTA, UNITED STATES
Director of Global Innovation
UPS
- Directed a global team of 60 FTEs and 100 offshore resources, overseeing Architects, Developers, and QA staff in the development, implementation, and deployment of high-quality technical solutions across all aspects of UPS operations.

- Reported directly to the CIO, managing resource allocations and providing senior mentorship to team members to enhance their skills and foster individual and team growth.

📅 10/2006 – 06/2013 📍 ATLANTA, UNITED STATES
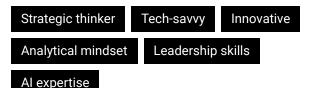### Sr. Director of Platforms
The Weather Channel
- Orchestrated a 35-member team to lead the design, development, and deployment of innovative technology and platform initiatives for digital (www.weather.com) and broadcast networks (The Weather Channel), with a focus on OTT/CTV/Mobile Platforms/SSAI/DAI, DSP/SSP, and SEO.
- Spearheaded the creation of "Weather-in-the-Cloud™", a revolutionary cloud-based product line delivering personalized weather forecasts to consumers' mobile, desktop, and cloud platforms.
- Developed and implemented the first ML/AI product on Azure for FEMA, achieving a 95% confidence interval in predicting where a storm would not make landfall. Leveraged over 4.3 petabytes of data from NOAA to drive this groundbreaking initiative.

SKILLS

Strategic Planning **Professional**
Innovation Management **Professional**
AI Expertise **Professional**
Technology Implementation **Professional**

STRENGTHS

`Strategic thinker` `Tech-savvy` `Innovative`

`Analytical mindset` `Leadership skills`

`AI expertise`

EDUCATION

📅 2018 – 2021 📍 BOSTON, UNITED STATES
Data Science
Sloan School of Business
- Completed a comprehensive study in Data Science, Machine Learning, and AI
- Analyzed data to extract meaningful insights and uncover compelling narratives
- Utilized a diverse range of disciplines to interpret and understand the story behind the data

📅 2001 – 2003 📍 ATLANTA, UNITED STATES
Political Science | BS
Georgia State University

📅 1984 – 1990 📍 ATLANTA, UNITED STATES
Computer Science | BS
Georgia State University

AWARDS

1989
Sparks Award
Georgia State University
Outstanding Service and Achievement to GSU.

2007
Innovation Award
The Weather Channel