James A. Hamm

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Senior Release Manager

Seasoned Information Technology professional with a long history of success overseeing technical teams in fast-paced environments. Innovative problem solver focused on identifying strategic ways to improve business processes and overall efficiency. Adept at aligning cutting edge technology and processes with company goals.

Areas of Expertise

Release Management | Project Management | Systems Monitoring | Systems Engineering | Documentation ITIL | Application and Deployment Support | Performance Management | Team Development and Management Process Improvement | Continuous Integration | Scheduling | Cross-Functional Collaboration | SDLC

Technical Skills

Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Excel, Access, Powerpoint) | MS Teams | Smartsheets | Windows | Linux Systems Administration (Linux, Windows) | Version Control Software (SVN, CVS, TFS, Git) | Scripting (Bash, Python) | Oracle Database Administration

Work Experience

Iqvia, Inc., Durham, NC

2017 - 2023

Associate Director, Senior Release Manager, R&D Release Services

Led geographically diverse, cross-functional deployment teams during application deployment into controlled environments. Reviewed key release cycle documents, such as installation qualification, test execution summary, and release validation report. Contributed as a member of the Change Advisory Board, approving changes to all controlled environments.

- Developed detailed implementation plans for product releases utilizing on-premise and cloud-based services, including AWS EC2, AWS S3, AWS VPC, Snowflake DB, Kubernetes, Mulesoft APIs and Salesforce.
- Implemented and managed release processes for code across development, testing, and production environments for 4-8 concurrent projects.
- Coordinated cross-functional teams, including Product Support, QA, and Development, during deployments.
- Effectively managed risks and issues impacting release quality and schedule, ensuring timely communication of concerns to project teams and management.
- Advised project teams on proper process to maintain the validated state of the controlled environments emphasizing adherence to the SDLC.
- Streamlined work instructions and release management processes by collaborating with the team, enabling the handling of more projects without increasing team size.
- Investigated and implemented methods and tools to improve automated deployments and enhance governance.
- Developed and maintained an implementation plan template used by the entire Release Services team,
 improving consistency in release handling and reducing implementation planning time.
- Mentored junior members of the Release Services team on Release Management procedures and best practices.
- Engineered a Release Readiness Dashboard to streamline the Releases Go/No-Go meeting, enhancing visibility into project readiness status.
- Coordinated annual release calendar in collaboration with project management and executives to schedule system implementations within designated Release Windows.

- Successfully managed risks and issues affecting release quality and schedule, and effectively communicated concerns to project teams and management.
- Coordinated with global teams to incorporate crucial upgrades into release schedules.
- Identified inter-system dependencies to reduce risks and streamline release processes.
- Collaborated with project teams to implement DevOps practices, release automation, and continuous improvement/continuous delivery (CI/CD), enhancing the efficiency of the release management process.
- Resolved release and team issues by swiftly addressing emergency fixes during releases and facilitating consensus to find effective solutions

Lexmark, Inc., Morrisville, NC

2010 - 2017

Senior Systems Engineer, Oracle Solutions Lab

Spearheaded the development and optimization of CI/CD build pipelines for multiple products using Continuous Integration Tools such as Jenkins and Atlassian Bamboo. Managed build systems for the department, ensuring seamless integration and deployment processes.

- Created and maintained version control system using Subversion.
- Deployed and administered multiple VMware ESXi hosts across US and European locations.
- Managed installation and administration of over 100 Linux instances for development, QA, and demo environments.
- Oversaw Oracle Enterprise Database, Oracle E-Business Suite, Oracle WebLogic, and Oracle SOA Suite within these environments.
- Conceptualized and engineered a virtual appliance solution, slashing installation duration by 90%, bolstering Professional Services efficiency.
- Conducted infrastructure analysis to assist customers in designing optimal environments to deploy our product.
- Designed and implemented a monitoring system using Nagios Core to track and manage critical metrics and ensure system availability.
- Created comprehensive installation documentation outlining product infrastructure and installation procedures.
- Utilized Rally within Agile development framework to manage User Stories, Defects, and Tasks.
- Orchestrated migration of over 100 VMs, relocating VM infrastructure from Morrisville, NC, and Copenhagen,
 DN to Lexington, KY, as part of a comprehensive IT consolidation initiative.

Quintiles, Inc., Morrisville, NC

2001 - 2010

IT Technical Advisor, Global Infrastructure Support - 5 Years

Advised developers on SQL optimizations, enhancing application efficiency. Provided primary support for several multi-tiered web reporting applications. Performed detailed analysis of possible improvements to Web-based application offerings. Troubleshooted .Net applications running on IIS. Managed critical internal clinical business applications, leading support and problem resolution with other global internal support teams.

- Delivered final-tier technical support for internal and external users, addressing PC, server, and mainframe application issues.
- Coordinated the implementation of internal, external and off-the-shelf business applications, collaborating with all IT and business groups.
- Enforced standardized procedures for incident, problem, and change management, as well as capacity planning and troubleshooting.
- Advocated for supported business groups by ensuring their interests were represented in IT processes.

- Collaborated with internal business units across all seniority levels to effectively communicate IT issues and establish clear expectations regarding restoration timelines.
- Spearheaded an initiative to reengineer critical components of the IVRS infrastructure, enhancing system reliability.
- Developed methods to improve efficiency in processing batch jobs.
- Developed infrastructure monitoring tools, enhancing outage response speed and minimizing downtime impact
- Administered the Team Foundation Server utilized by multiple project teams for version control of software code and artifacts.

IVR Services Production Support Manager, Analyst, IVR Services - 5 Years

Managed team of programmers that maintained 60+ applications in a 24/7-production environment. Interfaced with Project Managers and Helpline staff to maintain efficient operation of the IVR System.

- Project Manager for applications and systems transitioning into the maintenance phase of the lifecycle.
- Assessed performance, directed professional development, and upheld quality of work for the product support team, cultivating a culture of continuous improvement and excellence.
- Coordinated team collaboration to support and manage global projects, ensuring alignment with organizational objectives and deadlines.
- Designed and developed web-based applications for the business unit, employing ColdFusion and JavaScript.
- Oversaw the integration of all IVR development operations into the RTP office, optimizing resources and minimizing costs.
- Designed and implemented an extensive business continuity plan.
- Acted as a departmental liaison in client audits, ensuring seamless communication and compliance adherence.
- Leveraged Delphi programming language to develop applications linking Oracle database with MS SQL Server-based proprietary systems.
- Designed and developed user-friendly tools for IVR staff to facilitate day to day management of the IVR system.

Education

Computer Engineering

North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC BS

Awards

Numerous professional achievement awards

- **5 Star Awards** for outstanding customer service, Quintiles Inc.
- **3 President's Club nominations** for work well above and beyond expectations, Quintiles Inc.
- 2 ESPY Awards for outstanding customer service, Lexmark, Inc.