Andreas Bovens

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Profile

I am a skilled Product Management Lead, with over 13 years of experience in the web browser industry, first at Opera Software, then at Mozilla.

In my most recent role at Mozilla, I led its Platform Product Management team (8 directs, 14 in total, fully remote), working on all aspects of Firefox's Gecko web engine, developer tools, browser add-ons, VR and voice. I also managed its GeckoView product, an alternative browser engine for Android, which now powers the new Firefox app on Android.

An achievement I'm particularly proud of is that I managed to get support for Progressive Web Apps landed early on (2015) in Opera for Android, and two years later, I made it happen again, as PM for Firefox for Android.

I've taken on Developer Relations and Product Management for engines and apps with millions of daily active users that ship on desktop, mobile, and even VR headsets. Furthermore, I've built out and led highly performing, globally distributed and diverse tech advocacy and PM teams.

I'm a manager that cares about his team and can coach them to success, I get things done, I'm a strong communicator, and I'm passionate about web technologies and compelling UX. I have professional fluency in English, Dutch, Japanese and French, as well as basic understanding of Spanish, German and Norwegian. I'm also an experienced public speaker, and have excellent tech industry insights and contacts.

Experience

ⓜ Mozilla

Platform Lead (London, May 2019 – Sep 2020)
- Expanded and led the Platform Product Management team (8 directs, 14 total), covering Firefox's Gecko web engine, developer tools, add-ons, VR browsing, and more.
- Product Management of Graphics, Picture-in-Picture support, and GeckoView mobile web engine. Also took on PM responsibility for "Web Futures" R&D.

Senior Manager, Product (London, Mar 2019 – May 2019)
Lead, Product Management (London, Mar 2017 – Mar 2019)
- Platform Product Management. Shipped Progressive Web App support on Android.
- Established and led a team of four Senior Product Managers covering Gecko, developer tools, VR browsing, and more.
- Product Management of new GeckoView mobile web engine and of Firefox for Android.

Opera Software

Opera for Android Product Manager (Oslo, Mar 2015 – Nov 2016)
- Focus on user-centric feature development, and support for Progressive Web Apps.
- OEM distribution, monetization, user growth through user engagement loops.

Product Manager, Browser Extensions (Oslo, Feb 2013 – Jul 2015)
- Guided extension catalog, developer ecosystem, and browser implementation in transition to Chromium extensions. Successfully rebuilt ecosystem from the ground up.
- Drove malware countermeasures effort.

Group Leader Developer Relations (Oslo, Apr 2009 – Nov 2016)
- Hired and managed a world-class, globally distributed developer relations team (10-15 directs), focusing on developer outreach, technical documentation, technical partner management, and developer tools product management.
- Opera Mobile Emulator PM.

Web Evangelist (Tokyo, Feb 2008 – Mar 2009)
Technical partner management (Nintendo, KDDI), Japanese developer outreach.

Product Tester Mobile & Devices (Tokyo, Jul 2007 – Jan 2008)
QA of widget implementations for Nintendo Wii and KDDI AU cell phones.

Research Institute for Digital Media and Content, Keio University

Associate Researcher (Tokyo, Apr 2006 – Feb 2007)
Research focusing on Japanese copyright law and the digital environment.

University of Leuven

Researcher, Japanese Studies (Leuven, Aug 2003 – Mar 2004)
Development of departmental website. Research focusing on Japanese copyright law.

Education

Meiji University

Research Student (Tokyo, 2004 – 2006)

University of Leuven

Master in Japanese Studies, graduated with the highest distinction (Leuven, 1998 – 2003)

Osaka University

J-Course: intensive Japanese language program (Osaka, 2001 – 2002)