

MATTHEW BRANDI

Insightful and practical generalist with long experience in rôles requiring clear thought, effective communication, and patience with novel, routine, and intricate tasks.

I like to listen, and I build strong relationships of trust.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Matthew has a fascinatingly sharp mind and the ability to turn things on their head by looking at a situation from a completely different angle ... an uncanny ability to see clearly the source of the problem or issue and not be distracted by the peripheral and superfluous.

Belinda Wood (colleague) 

[T]he difference between success [and] failure of an extremely complex three year long implementation. His ability to translate complex business processes and to communicate them both verbally and in writing is unique.

Cristian Hernandez (supplier) 

Matthew is the perfect choice for complex tasks which need to be performed with precision at short notice, and for which there is no particular orthodox approach. ... he created a highly practical mix of automated and manual processes ... From a standing start, we had real results within days.

Matthew Karas (client) 

Matthew is an original thinker and has no hesitation about treating very formal technical issues in a highly creative way. ... he also supports pragmatic business decisions made along the way ... A great guy to have on your team, and a generous and friendly one too.

Adrian Taylor (colleague) 

WORK

CALL HANDLING SERVICES

2014

CLIENT SUPPORT EXECUTIVE

Frontline technical support for users of a 'cloud-based virtual call centre' product. 

SPEECH ENGINEERING LIMITED

2014

CONTRACTOR

Prepared voice recordings—transcription, editing, and a little light bash scripting—for input into the accent-recognition software of this startup. 

ADVANCED MEDIA PROTECTION LIMITED

2013

FREELANCE PROJECT MANAGER

Ran a software trial at a UK university—securing resources and coordinating client, vendor, university staff, and testers—and created a database to make sense of its results for this company seeking to 'unlock the value of copyright infringement'. 

PERRY WALKER (OPEN UP)

2012-2013

CONSULTANT

Provided advice on the representation and nature of arguments and contributed to work on the British constitution and the Leveson Report for this NEF fellow and his argument-mapping website, Open Up. 

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MATTHEW BRANDI

WORK (CONTINUED)

TALKTALK TELECOM LIMITED

1997-2009

BUSINESS ANALYST AND OTHER RÔLES

Joined Telco Global Communications as a postboy, rose through customer services to the project team, and remained through buyouts by Onetel and TalkTalk. Skills used included:

- Liaison: customers, regulators, suppliers, and competitors.
- Interviewing: requirement gathering and troubleshooting.
- Writing: letters, project documentation, reports, spreadsheets, and database queries.

VARIOUS ORGANISATIONS

1989-1997

TEACHING ASSISTANT, SALES CLERK, FILING CLERK, AND COPYTAKER

See my Linked In profile for detail; here are the highlights:

- Working in the jazz department of Tower Records in Piccadilly, with a sound system, a smile, and a preparedness to engage with the public, I managed to shift its supposedly unsaleable stock of Glen Velez CDs in a couple of hours.
- Though no logician, I taught logic to UCL undergraduates, filling lacunae left by lectures and text books. Thrown in the deep end, I learned quickly not to panic and just how much work my public-speaking skills still needed.

EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON

1985-1990

MPhil, PHILOSOPHY

BA, PHILOSOPHY (1ST CLASS)

Increasingly disillusioned with the sciences, I took a sharp left turn at eighteen and learned rigorous thought studying analytical philosophy. Care with detail, attention to the point of any activity, respect for consequences, and the interviewing skills to tease out an interlocutor's meaning have proved invaluable since.

- Received the Rosa Morrison medal for distinguished Arts & Humanities finalists.
- Organised intercollegiate seminars, securing rooms from the colleges and papers from lecturers and postgraduates.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Years working with software development teams and flitting between operating systems bred a respect for experts and this relaxed attitude: I will pick up what I need to know.

- Office, database, CRM, audio, and vector-graphics applications.
- Linux, Mac OS, and Windows.
- Learning Pure Data to build my own synthesizers and sequencers in software. 

LEISURE

- Member of the BFI, the Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust, and the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.
- Science fiction books and jazz CDs battle for shelf space and will one day crush me.

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