

# Chris Ascough

Liverpool, UK | 07721007069 | chris@zeroarena.com  
<http://uk.linkedin.com/in/chrisascough>

---

## Sr. Project/Programme Manager

Self-motivated, delivery-driven professional with 20+ years' success in leading business transformation through IT solutions for organizations across United Kingdom, Europe and US. Inclusive, results-focused approach to project management with an eye for detail and a proven ability to drive consensus among key stakeholders at all levels. Subject matter expertise in Identity and Access management, Windows 10 roll out, Information Rights Management, systems integration and system migration. Proficient in business change, presentation and communication, project planning, team leadership, IT applications development and deployment, vendor management. Good in French; conversational in German; basic knowledge of Italian.

### Areas of Expertise & Technical Skills

- Identity & Access Management
- Change Management
- Cross-functional Team Leadership
- Business Process Improvement
- IT Consulting
- IRM
- Risk Management
- Waterfall & Agile
- Systems Integration
- Vendor Relations
- Budgeting & Forecasting
- Team Building

### Professional Experience

**Samworth Brothers**, Leicester, UK 2019 - date

#### **Sr. Project Manager/Project Manager**

Identified requirements for a device lifecycle management process and service across the group. Developed process change and device deployment programme plan to implement this major business change across the group.

#### *Key Responsibilities:*

- Define device lifecycle and replacement process across group to reduce device TCO and support. Ensure a "smoothed" flow of replacements over time.
- Device "Charge Back" whereby Group IT procures and leases devices to business units.
- Implement device and peripheral Service Catalogue and Asset Management systems.
- Deploy Windows 10 to reduce extended licence costs.
- Lead Identification and selection of vendor to deliver the lifecycle service in the future.

**AstraZeneca**, Cheshire, UK 2010 - 2018

#### **Sr. Project Manager/Project Manager**

Promoted through multiple roles with increased accountability for project success, key stakeholder relations and team leadership. Utilised Prince2, ITIL, and other methodologies to establish scope, gather requirements, develop strategy, implement plans and budgets and deliver project milestones economically. Demonstrated flexibility and adaptability by successfully delivering a variety of technology solutions. Selected vendors and products through RFI process and managed suppliers, ensuring deliverables arrived on time and to rigorous specifications.

#### *Key Projects:*

- Successfully delivered final stages of integration/migration programme, including access groups and service decommissioning, completed timely programme closure. (2018)

*Continued...*

# Chris Ascough

Page 2 of 3

---

- Migrated 2K+ users and devices to Windows 10 and AstraZeneca standard systems with minimal user disruption, this enhanced staff collaboration and mobility and reduced IAM overheads through use of single technology. (2017)
- Implemented web-services interfaces into IAM system significantly accelerating speed of account creation (from several hours to 10 minutes) and reducing logged issues. (2016)
- Customised and deployed SOX compliance access review solution resulting in augmented accuracy and auditability yielding 50%+ decrease in review effort. (2015)
- Selected and forged relationship with FileSecure vendor for £1M Cloud IRM/DRM service solution providing secure document exchange internally and with third parties. (2013)
- Remediated security scorecard negative and delivered ability to pass compliance audit by deploying PrivilegeGuard privilege elevation software to 500+ users. (2012)
- Spearheaded successful proof-of-concept for virtual desktop/BYOD infrastructure (VDI) leading to delivering business case with savings of \$50M/year. (2011)

**Birkdale Relocations**, Merseyside, UK

2009 - 2010

## **Director**

Conducted thorough research to evaluate feasibility of home find and relocation start-up. Created accurate financial and business models to demonstrate viability and provide strategic roadmap. Secured preferred supplier role with Nutricia within one month of company launch.

**Network Rail**, London, UK

2008

## **Service Transformation Manager**

Collaborated with key stakeholders at all levels to understand process, policy and management deficiencies within IT Support division of rail infrastructure provider with 22K users. Analysed technology use, organisation structure and expenses (OpEx). Identified sustainable solutions, presented compelling case, gained decision maker buy-in and delivered transformation plan.

### *Key Projects:*

- Led reorganisation of underperforming Service Support group; achieved significantly improved service ratings and identified £2 million OpEx savings through improved workload management, employee engagement, and technology utilisation. (2008)

**TORI Global**, London, UK

2005 - 2007

## **Consultant Project Manager**

Delivered consultancy and sales support for engagements with Financial Services and other organisations in UK and USA. Delivered requirements assessments, situational assessments, solution designs, recommendations and project initiations.

### *Key Achievements:*

- Authored successful €1 million software sales proposal worth €400,000 to TORI. (2005)
- Identified savings of up to \$300K and 25% error reduction within projects assessment for GTECH, US. (2006)

*Continued...*

# Chris Ascough

Page 3 of 3

---

UN World Food Programme, Rome, Italy

2003 - 2004

## Programme Management Consultant

Reporting directly to the Director of IT, implemented a programme of work to deliver a portfolio of in-progress and requested project activity. Collaborated with heads of department to develop and implement a project request process to ensure value for money and governance of IT activity.

### Key Achievements:

- Selected and Implemented project portfolio management application. (2004)
- Initiated and executed business alignment exercise. Eliminated 60% of projects. (2004)

Reuters, London, UK

2000 - 2002

## Product Manager, Real-time Data Delivery

Launched replacement real-time market data delivery technology enabling organisation to meet expected growth. Delivered marketing, sales and pricing plans and materials for launch.

### Key Achievements:

- Launched replacement market data delivery technology to meet market growth.
- Organised and led 2-day Product Launch conference in USA.

Bank of Tokyo Mitsubishi, London, UK

1999 - 2000

## Implementation Manager

Planned and co-ordinated the work of application, infrastructure and support group Y2K projects across sites. Developed and implemented IT production change control process and governance.

### Key Achievements:

- Reduced production faults by 75% by implementing IT change control process. (1999)
- Orchestrated seamless desktop and device replacement roll-out to 750 users. (2000)

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM EARLIER CAREER SUCCESSES

- Restored failing project to health, saving potential £300,000 cost overrun for **Lombard Finance**. (1997)
- Ensured timely and accurate management financial information through PC-based system collecting financial data from branches worldwide for **Barclays Bank**. (1996)
- Enabled on-time opening of new private bank through first live BASYS wealth management system implementation at **Goldman Sachs Private Bank**, Zurich. (1994)
- Designed and delivered custom trading & settlement system for **Gerrard & National**. The project, worth c.£6 million, was delivered within regulatory change timeframes. (1989)

## Education & Certifications

**2:1 Bachelor of Arts, Politics (Hons.)**

Nottingham University, Nottingham, UK

**Prince2 Practitioner | ITIL Foundation**

1<sup>st</sup> January 2020