Top Skills

English
Customer Service
Problem Solving

Jim Jowers

Accomplished Director of IT, ISO, Project & Vendor Management
Broxton, Georgia, United States

Summary

With my extensive experience in Project Management, Information
Security & Vendor Management, and Information Technology
Management, I have a track record of successfully driving initiatives
in the financial sector.

As a highly accomplished SVP and Director of Project Management,
I collaborate with stakeholders to establish project scope, monitor
progress, and mitigate risks through detailed plans. In just two years,
I led project teams to deliver over 40 completed projects, including
significant milestones such as the addition of ancillary business
divisions and mergers totaling over one billion in assets.

In my role as SVP, Information Services Officer, and Vendor
Management, I prioritize infrastructure and data protection by
implementing a robust Information Security framework. I oversee
security aspects of IT projects, ensure compliance, and consistently
exceed expectations, earning top ratings from regulatory bodies.

As SVP and Director of Technology, I effectively manage end-to-
end operations and successfully implement IT systems, driving
innovation, streamlining processes, and optimizing cost-effective
operations. My approach has consistently delivered increased
productivity and information delivery. Managing a technology
budget and leading a team of 15 members, I prioritize efficiency and
effectiveness.

With a comprehensive skill set and a proven ability to deliver
results, I am well-positioned to drive success and innovation in
challenging and dynamic environments. My key strengths include
creating management processes, mentoring staff on standardized
methodologies, promoting excellence and efficiency, leveraging
expertise in enterprise-wide project management, and establishing
robust frameworks encompassing policy, process, operations,
people, and technology. I excel in executing complex projects,

developing performance-based agreements, and fostering positive relationships with all levels of management. Additionally, I am proficient in conducting business reviews with strategic vendors, implementing compliance procedures, and supervising security aspects of IT projects.

In summary, my results-driven approach, strong background in project management and information security, and ability to facilitate seamless communication among staff, management, vendors, and technology resources make me well-equipped to drive success in a variety of areas, including technology, information & physical security, vendor management, and retail/business online services.

Experience

Colony Bank
16 years 11 months

SVP, Director of Project Management
January 2021 - May 2023 (2 years 5 months)
Fitzgerald, Georgia, United States

• Measured project progress, including ROA, ROI, and cost feasibility, by formulating metrics while reporting to the executive steering committee as needed.
• Collaborated with stakeholders to define project scope and objectives and assuring technical feasibility. Tracked progress and addressed potential risks by developing and monitoring detailed plans.
• Established objectives and measurements for timely and cost-effective completion by communicating with business unit managers.
• Mentored and trained staff on standardized methodologies by initiating appropriate project management curricula.
Please review my achievements:
• Ensured successful execution of enterprise-wide projects through effective administration of project lifecycle.
• Led project teams in adding ancillary business divisions, such as Mortgage department, Small Business lending group, Wealth Management Group, Insurance, and RV/marine Lending.
• Promoted continuous improvement in business by capturing and documenting lessons learned from prior experiences.

• Optimized resource allocation process by coordinating with team members, senior management, and unit owners.

• Accumulated over one billion in assets by leading two bank acquisitions project teams.

• Sought improvement opportunities to create and strengthen new and existing business relationships by evaluating and executing vendor proposals.

• Realized 20% savings in vendor through productive negotiation.

• Delivered 40+ completed projects within two years.

• Maintained well informed and cohesive working environment through frequent communication with stakeholders for providing regular updates on project status.

SVP, Information Services Officer
September 2015 - January 2021 (5 years 5 months)

INFORMATION SECURITY OFFICER:

• Establish and maintain Information Security framework for infrastructure, corporate data, and customer assets.

• Coordinate and maintain company's Information Security Program, updating policies, procedures, and training.

• Complete operational risk management functions, including risk assessments and business continuity planning/testing.

• Develop strategic plan for information security, ensuring compliance with State and FFIEC guidelines.

• Identify and manage data analysis processes for management reporting from automated systems.

• Enforce applicable laws, regulations, and compliance relating to IT, information security, and privacy.

• Develop and oversee maintenance of key security program elements: Threat and Vulnerability Management, Security Architecture and Tools, Security Awareness, Security Governance.

• Oversee deployment, integration, and maintenance of security products and IT project security aspects.

• Provide Information Security awareness training, anticipating new threats and preventing incidents.

• Provide key performance data on information security and threat levels to senior management.

• Schedule and lead routine vendor reviews with business unit owners.

VENDOR MANAGEMENT:

• Establish and monitor vendor performance based on SLAs and contractual agreements.

• Monitor performance through metrics, SLAs, and KPIs for major and mission-critical vendors.
• Develop and implement procedures to ensure vendor compliance with Information Security, Compliance, and legal requirements.
• Ensure compliance with systems access, training, and data privacy rules.
• Provide business partners with metrics and management information on effective vendor service delivery.
• Monitor, track, and report termination fees, cancellation terms/dates, and contractual obligations.
• Perform routine maintenance of contracts, including renewal notices, termination notices, and amendments.

SVP, Senior Technology Officer
July 2006 - September 2015 (9 years 3 months)
Fitzgerald, GA

• Directed end-to-end operations and functions of various aspects, such as technology, mainframe, information & physical security, and retail/business online services.
• Led operational and technology aspects of acquisitions, including due diligence and vendor assessments.
• Acquired, implemented, and operated IT systems by defining and communicating corporate plans, policies, and standards.
• Identified potential cost benefits and over all drawbacks by reviewing technologies.
• Maintained compliance with industry regulations, policies, and ethical standards, including Bank Secrecy Act.
Please review my achievements:
• Acquired all set business objectives by leading IT strategic and operational planning, fostering innovation, prioritizing initiatives, and managing current and future IT systems.
• Enabled consistent and accurate delivery of information across all locations by administering, coordinating, and maintaining information systems.
• Propelled productivity and efficiency by evaluating and integrating new software and hardware technologies.
• Promoted cost-effective operations by managing technology budget of $5M-$10M and 15 team members.
• Streamlined processes by directing day-to-day operations and integrating technology systems.

Coffee County Board of Education

7 years 3 months

Asst Director, Information Technology
October 2005 - July 2006 (10 months)
Douglas, GA

• Managing all computer operations, including 2,800 workstations, 52 servers, content filtering, anti-virus/spam filtering, firewall/intrusion detection, and 115 routers and switches.
• Created and implemented an organizational flowchart for the restructuring of the technology department.
• Hired, trained, and responsible for 11 technical personnel with a centralized management solution.
• Assisted with a $1.5 million capital budget for the implementation of services and new technology.
• Developed, installed, and supervised installation and support of curriculum-based software solution for 13 WAN networks.
• Deployment of an operating system with specialized software designed for 1,800 workstations and 30 network servers.
• Formulated a new network design for the current implementation of an OC3 with redundancy.
• Implemented security and disaster recovery for application servers for 13 WAN locations.

Technology Specialist
May 1999 - October 2005 (6 years 6 months)
Douglas, GA

• Installs and maintains computer hardware, software, and peripherals incorporating the various configurations used in the system facilities.
• Assists with monitoring acceptable use policies for computer usage.
• Provides technical support and training for school personnel on hardware, software, networking, and operating system software in system facilities.
• Provides customized training for technical support personnel in the maintaining of computer systems, which incorporate various peripherals and software configurations.
• Researches and assists in setting specifications for networking and telecommunications technology in schools, including internet, intranet, local area networking, and wide-area networking.
• Maintains a maintenance and repair schedule of computer hardware.
• Supported the development of security guidelines and monitored network security.
• Maintains confidentiality of sensitive information and material.

Education

GBA Banking School at The University of Georgia
Banking School, Banking and Financial Support Services · (May 2021 - May 2023)

Barrington University
BS, Management Infomation Systems

South Georgia College
AS, Business Management

South Georgia College
AS, Management Information Systems