

James Stephen Mason

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I have been a product professional for 14 years, 6 years of which have been in senior leadership positions. I've delivered SaaS platforms in FinTech across B2C, B2B and B2B2C environments, leading cross-functional teams of 70+ people through all stages of product maturity. An agile delivery expert, I bring a data-driven, user-centric approach to product strategy and delivery.

Head of Product (CPO) – Zeal Group - Apr 2023 – Oct 2024

Executive team member leading Product, PMO, UX, and Engineering through a transformative period, helping drive profit from break-even to circa £20m. Rebuilt department structure for speed and autonomy, launched multiple new products both client and internal facing including MT5, a new mobile app, a PWA, a crypto reward token and a new payments system. Maintained a balance of leadership and hands-on work, while mentoring team members to become high performers.

Head of Product / PMO – Oval Money (ETX Capital) - Jun 2021 – Apr 2023

Led product and PMO through the ETX–Oval merger, delivering rebrand and building a high-performing delivery function along with engineering leadership, including growing my team from 3 to 11. Significant product updates included the introduction of a retail crypto offering for Oval, integration with Railsbank, Trading Platform UX/UI rework, integration with two new liquidity providers and a new HR system. Company later entered administration following VC withdrawal.

Head of Product – Index Labs - Jun 2020 – Jun 2021

Redesigned structure and processes with the CTO, accelerating delivery across trading platforms, back-office systems, and integrations (payments, AML, KYC). Introduced new capability for order management, pricing, and trading experience. Introduced proper integration with gambling safeguarding tools like Gamstop. The business ceased operations following the collapse of parent company Football Index.

Head of Product – Genius Sports - Apr 2019 – Apr 2020

Oversaw a £5m product portfolio across Europe and Australia, delivering SaaS tools for live data capture, competition management, fan engagement and coaching analytics used by global federations like the NCAA and FIBA. I led multi-location teams and reported directly to the COO during a high-growth phase of the company.

Lead Product Manager, IT Business Partner, Product Owner – IG Group - 2011 – Apr 2019

Promoted multiple times over 7.5 years, ultimately leading trading platform delivery with a team of 9 product owners. Delivered IG's Android and iOS apps and spearheaded the multi-year redevelopment of its web trading platform.

2006-2011: Professional Golfer

A touring professional golfer for five seasons, predominantly on the Europro tour.

Education

2000-2003: University of York - BSc Hons Mathematics and Computer Science.

Outside work

I am the proud father of two children, a daughter (9) and son (7). In my free time, I enjoy windsurfing, playing badminton and playing guitar.