Job Description

Senior Architect, Solutions

Role Description:

The Solutions Assessment function of the Solutions Design Team triages, evaluates and costs technology investments. The team is responsible for understanding the organisation's existing capabilities, co-ordinating the development of solution options, the IT Department's initial Rough Order of Magnitude (ROM) estimates and proposing solution options and recommendations. During project startup, the Solutions Design Team plays an active role in hand over to the delivery team to ensure continuity and participates in subsequent more detailed design proposals and detailed estimates. In-flight projects may request the involvement of the Solutions Design Team when a change of scope requires rapid development of an approach and associated estimation of effort, cost and complexity. Outside of project work, the Solutions Design Team also works with colleagues in support functions and participates in key architecture initiatives.

The Senior Solutions Architect is responsible for taking an idea for technology change to a point where Senior Management can decide if and how to proceed. The Senior Solutions Architect has a key role in ensuring that Carnival UK (CUK) Technology makes sound decisions on its portfolio of technology investments: that all parties understand the benefits, cost and complexity of proposed change.

RUI:	911	Grade:	CUK level 06	DBS check required:	No
Directorate:	Carnival UK Shared Services	Reports to:	Director, Solution Design		
Function:	Carnival UK Technology	Team:	Technology Architecture & Engineering Department		

Direct reports :	Job Titles & Level
	• None

Accountabilities:

Strategic Leadership
- Validate the requirement for change with the business, based on challenging, testing and understanding the current state and desired outcome
- Make recommendations to stakeholders and the Technology Leadership Team (TLT) based on challenging, testing, understanding:
  - o Strategic value / benefits case of proposed technology change
  - o Relative priority of competing change proposals
  - o Architectural choices / complexity / options for delivering change
  - o Delivery options (e.g. internal / external, technical vs non-technical)
- Pragmatically balance service sustainability and consistency of architectural approach against urgency of proposed change

People Management / Coaching / Development / Resourcing
- Facilitate short-lived, highly focussed, cross-discipline collaborative teams striking a balance between inclusivity (of people and ideas) and rapid turnaround of Rough Order of Magnitude estimates
- Identify stakeholders for a proposed change and ensure they have an appropriate level of engagement
- Foster collaboration within IT, across and beyond local teams (including other Opcos and third parties)
- Play an active part in team development (processes, people, outputs e.g. peer review)
- Actively communicate and promote the work of the Solutions Design Team within and beyond the CUK Technology teams

Budget Management / Financial Responsibilities / Revenue / Sales / Cost Management / Cost Control
- Challenge, understand benefits case (revenue, cost, regulatory etc) for proposed change
- Ensure all pragmatic options for delivering change are considered
- Ensure all considerations that are material to cost of option delivery and support are considered and evaluated – but maintain focus on issues that are material to estimation and discard discussion / evaluation of issues that are immaterial
- Strike a pragmatic balance between performing an evaluation that is scientific and repeatable, but is sufficiently flexible to evaluate the unique qualities of each change

- Work with stakeholders to identify how proposed change will be paid for, budgetary rules (e.g. Capex, Opex) that will apply

Customer Responsibilities (Internal & External Customers)
- Required to engage with stakeholders at all levels. Able to adapt communication style, medium and approach as necessary.
- Ability to challenge collaboratively with stakeholders of all levels and disciplines – often in areas where the Senior Solutions Analyst may not have any personal expertise
- Source and establish relationships with vendors / suppliers previously unknown to CUK

Technical (including systems) and/or Professional Responsibilities
- Actively participate in the prioritisation, planning of Solution Assessment activity
- Preparation of Technology Investment Request (TIR) documentation or other artefacts as appropriate (e.g. high-level summary documentation, comparative analyses, presentations) for each proposed change
- Creation/adaptation of estimating models associated to size/complexity of proposed initiatives to include IT resourcing, professional services, hardware/software, travel and other anticipated costs
- Presentation of change proposals to stakeholders and IT senior management. Communication of decisions to stakeholders and relevant delivery resources
- Collaborate with delivery / project teams to handover estimation work and establish new projects
- Progressively and iteratively build knowledge within the Solutions team of people, processes and technology across Carnival UK
- Senior Solutions Analysts will frequently be required to challenge proposals and develop solution options in business and technical domains where they have limited / no personal expertise
- Where CUK decides to trial, prototype or rapidly develop new technology, Senior Solutions Analysts may be required to oversee, co-ordinate and drive the development / configuration / deployment of such technology, especially in the context of technology innovation.

Health, Environment, Safety, Security (HESS) Responsibilities:

- Lead by example by taking care of the health and safety of yourself and others.
- Report all accidents, 'near miss' incidents and work related ill health conditions to your manager, team leader.
- Follow safety rules and procedures.
- Use work equipment, personal protective equipment, substances, and safety devices correctly.
- Take part in safety training & risk assessments and suggest ways of reducing risks.
- Appoint shore side risk assessment Subject Matter Expert's as required to review and approve risk assessments.
- Actively promote safe working within your team and encourage safe behaviours.
- Demonstrate safety leadership in accordance with our safety leadership behaviours.

General Responsibilities:

- Adhere to Corporate Policies and Procedures, including Code of Conduct, Audit Procedures and any control related responsibility for financial data entered, stored, or reported via business systems within employee's control (list not exhaustive).

Scope:

Problem solving:
- The Solution Architect will be expected to reason business requirements for change against technical and organisational constraints, business and IT strategy and other influencing factors, to derive solution designs that address both the explicit requirements for change and the broader requirements / constraints of the organisation.
- The Solution Architect needs to understand the respective internal and external delivery capabilities for the realisation of the solutions they design, and agree delivery processes that exploit these capabilities appropriately and respects their constraints (e.g. skills, capacity, commercial).
- Given the diversity that exists within our business(es) and the potential solutions that the group, its partners and IT industry has to offer, the Solution Architect needs to navigate a complex array of solution options to identify one that can be delivered.

Impact:
- The Solution Architect provides a single point of contact for Architecture on projects and programmes, being able to account for the design of a solution and its alignment to Enterprise Architecture and other standards.

- The Solution Architect develops solution designs that can be understood by the sponsors for change (e.g. business stakeholders) and the respective delivery functions that will be responsible for delivering this.
- The Solution Architect aligns individual change initiatives with strategic imperatives (business and IT), with the objective of developing solutions the help the organisation realise its overall strategy
- The Solution Architect is accountable for all aspects of the solution's design through-life and will where necessary delegate and govern the development of solution designs by subject matter experts (internal and external).

Leadership:
- The Solution Architect owns and can demonstrate a passion for the solution they have developed that will be witnessed through their articulation of the solution's design and the reasoning behind it.
- The Solution Architect acknowledges that for solution's to be successfully delivered they need to work with a cross-section of stakeholders and as such will communicate effectively to drive consensus and address concerns.
- On projects, the Solution Architect will be expected to drive all design activity, coordinating the design tasks within the context of the high level solution design they are developing and aligning these to the overall project schedule.
- Throughout design, the Solution Architect drives designs through to conclusion via the appropriate authorities (e.g. Technical Design Authority) and with all of the stakeholders concerned.

Demonstrable Behaviours:

Self-Mastery
- Demonstrates high self-awareness of impact of own behaviours and adjusts to suit the audience.
- Seeks feedback to learn and develop self. Acts with integrity and is authentic.
Improve & Innovate
- Embraces change and continuously looks for sustainable improvements that enhance the team, business and guest experience.
Engage & Empower
- Cultivates a culture in inclusivity and care across own and wider teams.
- Values differences in people and supports and champions personal growth.
Accountability & Commerciality
- Takes accountability and ownership of challenges, obstacles and team success.
- Appropriately manages expectations and delivers on promises.
Inspire & Achieve
- Thinks strategically, considers broader interests and direction to shape decisions.
- Inspires and energises others through skilful communications connecting purpose, vison and strategy to drive performance.

Knowledge, Experience and Qualifications::

Qualifications – essential:

N/A

Knowledge/ Experience – essential:

- Solid understanding of solution design and architecture.
- Experience designing and delivering large and small scale change programmes as a lead solution architect.
- Experience of translation and validation of business requirements - proposing and estimating technology solutions in response.
- Strong Stakeholder management experience.
- Expert in producing clear and concise documentation of technical architecture.
- Expert knowledge of design and integration principles for relational databases.
- Good understanding of server-side and end-user application architecture and design.
- Strong understanding of a broad range of technologies and pragmatic architectural approaches.

Qualifications – desirable:

- Degree level qualified in Architecture, Numerical discipline or similar.
- Industry qualifications or equivalent professional training.

Knowledge/ Experience – desirable:

- Travel, hospitality, leisure or maritime industry background.

- Proficient understanding of TOGAF principles and application. - Experience in collaborating with a large team of Architects and SMEs across the wider Technology and the Business. - Risk management exposure, including incorporating risk mitigations into solution infrastructure and architecture deliverables and artefacts. - Experience working with Agile methods (e.g. SAFe) and design within these - Experience providing consultancy to the business and IT team members.	

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