CV: Kim Spence-Jones

Full Name: Kim Spence-Jones

Date of Birth: 4th April 1955

Nationality: British

OVERVIEW

Kim has wide managerial experience. He has been involved with many start-ups as co-founder or Managing Director. He has worked in industries from the oil industry to tourism to garments to electronics.

Engineering projects include network infrastructure design, ATM switch designs, several set-top boxes, home control systems and various smaller add-on devices. Kim developed some early ATM switch products used in building the Internet infrastructure. He has also been responsible for the design and development of a number of local area and wide-area networking products.

Kim is a prominent member of the "Cambridge Phenomenon" and has been involved with many local committees and international standards groups.

SKILLS

Managerial

Kim has more than thirty-five years' experience of starting and running companies, mostly in hi-tech industries. He has led technical teams on a wide range of development projects, from industrial control, through innovative networking technologies, to installation of video-on-demand systems. He combines encyclopaedic knowledge of network technologies with a sound understanding of commercial issues. Kim is at his best when leading an engineering team working on projects which are making early commercial success of leading-edge technology.

Technical

Kim is an experienced hardware and software developer, specialising in computer networking equipment using a mix of real-time embedded processors and custom hardware. He has deep knowledge of many aspects of networking, ranging from IP through electronic mail to wireless technologies. He is also experienced in taking products into production phase, including EMC testing and production engineering.

Kim also has a good working knowledge of web technology.

EMPLOYMENT

2011-present

Management Director, Technical (& shareholder), OpenHub Smart Homes Limited

OpenHub was restructured during 2011. Kim is responsible for technical direction of the company. Focus has been on work with central and local government to define strategy for future smart homes and smart cities.

Typical Projects

- Open DCU

  Political lobbying in favour of the development of an open reference design for a "Digital Consumer Unit" to define the core device in integrated smart home systems.

- Derby City Council Bid Preparation

  Assistance in the preparation of tender document for "smart home" element of next generation social housing

- Elton Road, Derby

  Implementation of Energy control and monitoring system in twenty-five social housing units. This experimental TSB-funded installation demonstrated the value of a fully-integrated smart home environment. The system uses wired and wireless sensors to instrument and control many aspects of each dwelling.

2004-2011

Technical Director (& shareholder), OpenHub Limited

OpenHub was founded to implement advanced digital infrastructures to and inside residential properties. The objective was to provide an integrated environment through which the full range of digital services could be delivered as cost-effectively as possible. Kim shared responsibility for technical direction with the Chairman, and was responsible for ensuring delivery of most of the company's projects.

Typical Projects

- MonAMI (EC Framework 6 project)

  Involvement in largest ever pan-European assisted living project, developing an oSGI-based mainstream implementation of assistive living technology. OpenHub provided architectural design input, display devices and connectivity infrastructure.

- Various local and national government studies

  Work on defining aspects of strategy and implementation for digital connectivity to and in residential dwellings.

- BRE Innovation Park

  Leading involvement with the Building Research Establishment's "Innovation Park" as Lead Technology Partner. Installation of "smart home" systems in some of the buildings, and of park-wide fibre infrastructure connecting all properties on the park.

- Carpenters' Connect/RegenTV IPTV infrastructure in East London

  Project management for beta test site installation, user documentation and technical support services

Other activities

- TAHI

  Chairman of the Industry Sector Group on Health, Telecare and Community.

1996-2004:

Managing Director (& shareholder), SJ Consulting

Kim was Managing Director of SJ Consulting from the foundation of the company in 1996. His responsibilities were partly general management financial control, partly project management and partly technical consultancy.

Design projects included ATM edge-switches and Set-top Boxes for Video-on-demand systems, and work on a reference implementation of IEEE 802.11 WiFi protocol stack.

1982-96

Managing Director, Technical (& shareholder), SJ Research

Responsible for overall technical direction of company, and day-to-day management of R&D team, also involved in the full breadth of company management and financial control. Steered the company from small consultancy group to a turnover of £1.6M in specialist networking products for educational market.

1980-82

Director, Philip Spence-Jones & Associates

1978-82

Specialist Engineer, CXJB Underwater Engineers/CJB Subsea

1978

Engineer, Pipeline Technologists

1976-78

Project Engineer, Star Offshore Services

EARLY CAREER

Kim Spence-Jones was born and educated in Cambridge. He has a degree in Engineering Science from Cambridge University.

Kim started his first company at fourteen. During his undergraduate years he formed several companies which all had profitable lifetimes: he ran both a T-shirt company and the first successful chauffeur punting company on the River Cam. Most of his holiday employment was running his own businesses.

As a young graduate, he worked in the offshore oil industry where he built a reputation for innovation and design by developing a revolutionary way of connecting pipes underwater. In the late seventies Kim formed a successful company to develop industrial control devices. He then took advantage of an opportunity to work in Japan for nine months, as Resident Engineer supervising the fabrication of parts for a North Sea oil platform.

On returning to England Kim became heavily involved in the early development of the BBC Micro, working as a consultant for Acorn computers and also developing his own company's compatible product ranges.

EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATIONS

1973-76 Cambridge University

- MA in Engineering Science

1966-73 Perse School, Cambridge

- A-levels in Chemistry, Pure Maths, Applied Maths, Physics
- 13 O-levels

Prefect, Cadet Coxswain of Combined Cadet Force

Languages

Some French, lapsed Japanese

Clean full UK driving licence

INTERESTS

My children, reading (science-fiction, general), music (including creating electronic music), woodwork, cooking & cake decorating, typography & desktop publishing, travel, politics.

Gold medallist for Water Polo in the 2003 BBC Technogames