

Samuel H. Alston

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SUMMARY

Early career product and risk analysis professional with 4+ years of experience in various settings. Strong skills, knowledge, and experience with Microsoft Office, Agile, product strategy, workflow tools, UCD, JIRA, presentation, and data driven decision making. Currently seeking a new career opportunity with a dynamic and growing company as a Product Manager in the New York City area.

WORK EXPERIENCE

The Depository Trust and Clearing Corporation | New York, NY

DTCC is the major international organization that processes trillions of dollars of securities transactions daily, conducting clearance, settlement, data management, and information services. My division assures that any of DTCC's owners/users/members, which are financial services firms, has sufficient funds to make good on trades. My job is to ensure that my teams have the software needed to adequately assess these users' levels of risk. I have led teams through successful deployment of multiple risk-monitoring applications.

Product Owner – Risk Technology

Jan. 2022 – Present

Work with a cross-functional team of 11 software engineers, UX designers, etc. to identify and eliminate weaknesses in our risk-monitoring software. Conduct user research to understand pain points in business processes. Accomplishments to date include:

- Devised and deployed two new risk monitoring applications on Angular based UX platform. Leveraged technical skills and domain expertise to automate existing manual processes and save the team 70 hours of work weekly and \$500,000+ dollars per year. Later, the apps won third place in the company's Leadership Award for Innovation & Process Excellence
- Led build of a reporting dashboard product. Discovered opportunity to eliminate multiple manually created reports after taking initiative to review existing user journeys. Saved the team 20 hours of work weekly and \$150,000+ dollars per year
- Designed a new workflow for customer support requests. Leveraged Microsoft Power Automate to create the new system, improving the turnaround time for integrating the valid requests into our development roadmap by over 80%
- After the complete turnover of our division's liquidity risk team, drew on my subject matter expertise to bring successor team up to speed quickly. This fast tracked the adoption of a new product roadmap and long term strategic initiatives
- Successfully persuaded management to hire two more software developers onto team despite competing department priorities

Jr. Product Owner – Risk Technology

Feb. 2021 – Jan 2022

Led team focused on automating processes for monitoring data quality in liquidity risk systems

- Designed and deployed data quality system that performs automated analysis based on historical liquidity data. Through user research, identified 63 key liquidity metrics for monitoring. The build has raised 500+ data exceptions to date
- Acted as an assistant Product Owner for two phases of a new default management project, managing JIRA board, planning sprints and conducting stakeholder interviews. Deployed 17 reporting features and 2 security portfolio creation engines

Analyst – Risk Technology

Jul. 2019 – Feb. 2021

Was part of a team that built new application to handle DTCC member bank defaults. Helped manage team of 7 software developers.

- Aided with creation of product strategy for reimagined system crucial to DTCC's stress testing of member banks
- Contributed to technical strategy discussions for new system architecture; learned much about system design
- Interviewed members of internal default management to identify weaknesses in legacy software. Created plan to eliminate the weaknesses. Broke it down into more than 40 epics and 400 separate user stories

Risk Intern

Jun. 2018 – Aug. 2018

Served as product owner on small engineering team developing enhancements for DTCC's default management platform.

- Delivered successful release of enhancements in final weeks of internship, eliminating one key manual task. Demoed it to upper management, earning offer for a full-time position post-graduation due to the success of the project.
- Learned Agile and Scrum software development methodology

SKILLS AND ABILITIES

Skills: Microsoft Office, Agile, product strategy, user centered design, JIRA, organization, data driven decision making

Abilities: Leadership, stakeholder management, strong communications, attention to detail

EDUCATION

Elon University | Elon, NC

Aug. 2015 – May 2019

Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, Finance