



## THISHAN G. GUNASEKARA

CITP, MBCS, CSS, SLITPA (UAE)

MOBILE : +971 54 252 3900 EMAIL: [thishangg@gmail.com](mailto:thishangg@gmail.com)

Chartered certified IT professional with 20+ years of IT management skilled as well as a driven team-manager with 15+ years of professional in attaining detailed projects. Top-performer and motivator who has the added advantage of technology as leverage to achieve timely results. Proven track record of sticking to objectives whilst making the most out of available resources. Achieving top management position in the management level and recognition for achieving company goals answerable to the Board or Stakeholders. Has contended 9+ years' regional projects with several development teams in different locations.

Linkedin :

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/thishan-gunasekara-9364a93/>

### **SKILLS**

Management  
IT & Software  
Communication  
Leadership  
Time management  
Problem Resolving  
Active Listening  
Flexibility  
Patience  
Analytical Ability  
Team Work  
Creativity

### **PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION**

#### **BRITISH COMPUTER SOCIETY, UK - 2007**

Certified Chartered Information Technology Practitioner [CITP]

#### **NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF BUSINESS MANAGEMENT, SRI LANKA - 1990**

Diploma in System Design

#### **STANDARD CHARTERED BANK, UAE - 2009**

Certification for Project managers in QMF (Quality Management Framework)

### **WORK EXPERIENCE**

#### **HDDES Natural Products Trading LLC - UAE**

##### **Managing Director**

Sep 2021 – Present

HDDES Group ([www.hddes.com](http://www.hddes.com)) established in 1982, A pioneering supplier of high-quality premium products. We offer our, organic tropical spices, Essential Oils, Hydrolats, Oleoresins, Floral Extracts, Medicinal Plant extracts, Natural Aromatic Chemicals, Coconut based products, Agarwood (Oud) & Instant Tea. HDDES has branches in Germany, Myanmar & UAE. HDDESNT UAE, overlook MENA regions on sales & suppliers.

- Managed entire operations, business development, recruitment and P&L.
- Built marketing & sales plan
- Created Business Verticals and teams to enhance market penetration.
- Built channel networks to outline the market.
- Created an integrated marketing, digital, communication and PR strategy.
- Meeting and engaging with buyers
- Managing end to end promoting & participating in main exhibitions – EXPO2020, Beauty world, Gulf Foods
- Ensure company policies and legal guidelines are communicated all the way from the top down in the company and that they are followed at all times
- Delegate responsibilities and supervise the work of executives providing guidance and motivation to drive maximum performance
- Act as the public speaker and public relations representative of the company in ways that strengthen its profile
- Analyze problematic situations and occurrences and provide solutions to ensure company survival and growth

## EXPERTISE

Project Management  
IT Networking  
Troubleshooting & Resolution  
End User Support  
IT Security Metrology  
Digital Banking  
Vendor Management/ Supply Chain  
System Functional Management  
Mobile Banking  
Switch Migration - EMV  
Business/ Administrative Management  
Regional IT Management  
Cards Personalization  
Project Planning/ Project Scope - Plan  
Business Re-engineering  
Executive/ Escalation Reporting  
Transformation Programs  
Decision Making  
Customer Management  
Business Analysis / Best Practices  
Change Management  
Risk Management  
Training/ Budgeting  
Test Management  
Gap Analysis/ Research  
Computer Software  
Enterprise Systems  
Application Knowledge  
Team Management  
Handling Multi Cultural Teams

## TECHNICAL PROFICIENCIES

Hardware:  
RISC 6000, AS400, System 36, System 34, Wang VS, IBM, DELL, Compaq, Wang VS, HP, APPLE, Lexmark  
Software:  
RPG400, MS Office, Visio, Antivirus, Adobe, Acrobat, Illustrator, Photoshop, Partition Magic, Adware, Spyware, Malware, Share point, Workwise  
Networking: WAN & LAN using Novell, CISCO and other world renowned network products  
Platforms: Windows XP, PC Network  
ERP: SAP, Oracle, BPCS (Business Planning and Control System), EBBS - Electronic Branch Banking System

### YOGO (PVT) LIMITED, SRI LANKA

#### IT Consultant

Aug to 2021 Jan

- Evaluating the principle design of taxi booking and allocating area level taxi availability. (Team – 15 colleagues)
- Reviewed customer payment settlements and driver benefit payments. (Team – 10 colleagues)

#### Project Manager

- Managed & Implemented customer payment settlements and driver benefit payments. (Team – 25 colleagues)

### Multi National Company –will notify later- SRI LANKA

#### IT Consultant

2016 Jan to 2019 Nov

- Providing IT solutions/ improvements/ troubleshooting and gap analysis on the MNC IT and Operational level request. (Team – 40 colleagues)
- Providing systematic communication updates with status reports on all projects for the key stakeholders. 15% growth after consultancy began. (Team – 15 colleagues)

### STANDARD CHARTERED BANK, UAE/SINGAPORE

#### Regional Project Manager (MENA, Pakistan & South Asia Region)

#### Regional Implementation Manager (MENA, Pakistan & South Asia Region)

2006 Jul to 2015 Dec

- Deploying and implementing various projects in multiple countries (19) for remote channels (Internet Banking/ Mobile Banking/ SMS Banking/ IVR/Payment Switch/ Payment-Utility systems and upgrades/linkage to ERP system (ebbs)).
- Successfully led more than 75+ major large-scale projects with the Waterfall/ Agile project management method.
- Payment Switch Migration (QA, BH, UAE) – (Team – 200 colleagues)
- New Financial Services Platform (UAE, PK) – (Team – 110 colleagues)
- New customer login interface for digital banking – (Team – 180 colleagues)
- Bill Payment System to interface with all utility companies in UAE & PK – (Team – 150 colleagues)
- Enabling Islamic finance services in digital banking in UAE – (Team – 80 colleagues)
- Short Messaging Solution banking (SMSB) – Pull/Push service to enable for CASA (Current/Saving accounts) & credit card payments (UAE, PK) – (Team – 150 colleagues)
- Inter Bank Fund Transfer (IBFT) to any bank (PK) – (Team – 70 colleagues)
- Principle implementation of Internet Banking (Current/Saving Accounts) in Lebanon – (Team – 80 colleagues)
- eStatement – Consolidate statement (CASA/Credit Card) is generated for customer request through digital banking for Thailand – (Team – 180 colleagues)
- Country specific requirements/upgrades/Change request (CR) for delivery channels including interface to Core Banking Software.

### REGIONAL EMV TECHNOLOGY PROJECT MANAGER

2006(August) 2008(June)

- Responsible for EMV/3DES Pilot project implementation for SCB Qatar. (Project Cost: USD 1.7 M, Team – 80 colleagues)
- Responsible for EMV/3DES project implementation for SCB Bahrain. (Project Cost: USD 1.6 M, Team – 120 colleagues)
- Responsible for EMV Debit Chip Card Issuance for SCB Bahrain. (Project Cost: USD 900,000, Team – 80 colleagues)
- Manage/Support the ATM Channels for Core banking implementation in SCB Bahrain. (Team – 50 colleagues)

## PERSONAL DETAILS

Visa Status: Residence Visa (Transferable)  
D.O. B : 30<sup>th</sup> August 1970  
Nationality: Sri Lankan  
Language: English, Sinhalese  
Marital Status: Married  
Availability: Immediately

## MEMBERSHIP

- Sri Lanka Information Technology Professionals Association (SLITPA) – UAE (2021)
- British Computer Society [MBCS] - UK (2005)
- Project Management Institute - USA (2007)
- Computer Society, Sri Lanka (1990)

## RECOMMENDATIONS

"Thishan is an experienced, thorough professional with specialization in managing large technology projects. His core strengths are domain knowledge, Project Management Plan and adherence to it, crisp and apt communication, stakeholder management, effective team leader cum member, impressive and meaningful dashboards and presentations. Wishing Thishan ALL THE VERY BEST ALL THE TIME."  
- Sunil Rajah  
Chief Operating Officer  
Standard Chartered Bank

- Manage/Certified the WINCOR ATM systems for SCB UAE. (Project Cost: USD 800,000, Team – 50 colleagues)
- Manage the Utility payment solution for Etisalat [define] thru ATM channels for SCB UAE. (Project Cost: USD 100,000, Team – 50 colleagues)
- Manage/Support the Phone banking solution thru ATM channel for SCB UAE. (Project Cost: USD 67K, Team – 25 colleagues)
- Manage/Certified EMV/3DES solution with VISA, MASTERCARD & respective Central Bank teams. ( Team – 40 colleagues)

## CORPORATE IT RESOURCES (Pvt.) LTD, SRI LANKA

### Senior IT Consultant cum IT Project Manager

2005 Feb to 2006 Jul

- Governed multi-faceted IT projects (04) awarded by UNDP/ ADB and IMF for the Government of Sri Lanka. (Team – 350 colleagues)  
Projects (4) successfully deployed to Dep. of Pension & Ministry of Finance. (Team – 80 colleagues)

## ANTLER GROUP OF COMPANIES – JV with QUENBY PRINTS UK – SRI LANKA

### Group IT Manager

2002 Jun to 2005 Feb

- Managing and Implementing IT/Communication solutions for the group with a team of 80 IT professionals along with extensive analytic skills, directed the In-house software team which we produce an ERP solution for the company.
- ERP solution bundle with manufacturing, purchasing, ordering, inventory management, Creditors, Debtors, Finance, Marketing analyzing with order processing. (Team – 75 colleagues)
- IT services were deployed to 7 companies within the group. 60% growth in company due to new IT services implemented.

## EDUCATION

- D.S.Senanayake College, Sri Lanka – Ordinary Level & Advanced Level

## CERTIFICATION & TRAINING

- Certification for Project managers in Cocteau Data Centre Services Module for ATOS in Hong Kong for Standard Chartered Bank (Since 2008)
- Certification for Project managers in Workwise (Project team Management tool) in Standard Chartered Bank (Since 2006)
- Certificate in Adventure Training and Personal Development by ELLA Adventure, Sri Lanka (2002 Mar)
- Certificate in LAN Windows NT at University of Colombo, Sri Lanka (2001 Jun)
- Certificate in Network Virus protection by Global Conventions, Sri Lanka (2001 Nov)
- Certificate in Presentational methods at British Council, Sri Lanka (2000)
- Certificate in "Weekend Challenge" at Sri Lanka Business Development Centre (2000)
- Certificate in Time Management at British Council, Sri Lanka (1999)
- Certificate in Managing Teams at British Council, Sri Lanka (1999)
- Certificate in "Weekend Challenge" at Sri Lanka Business Development Centre (1999)
- Certificate in C & UNIX Programming at IDM Computer Studies Ltd, Sri Lanka (1998 Jun)
- Certificate on Introduction AS/400 at IBM, Colombo, Sri Lanka (1994 Aug)
- Certificate on QUERY/400 at IBM World Trade Corp, Colombo, Sri Lanka (1993 Jun)
- Certificate in RPG II Programming using IBM System 34/36 at EDP, Sri Lanka (1988 - 1989)