

Charanjit Bakshi

Reading, RG20 0DA, UK · 07448 748367 · charanjit.b.bakshi@gmail.com · linkedin.com/in/charanjit-bakshi-09556618

Personal Profile

Technical leader with 16 years in telecom infrastructure, moving into product management. Built a track record of turning unscoped technical work into measured business outcomes: self-initiated an audit that removed over £6M of recurring operating expenditure, built automation that cut manual script-creation time by 75–80%, and reframed a government compliance mandate into a cost avoidance rather than a new cost. Strongest at finding the commercial or product problem inside work handed over as pure execution. SC cleared. Currently completing a 12-week AI product management programme (expected October 2026) to build AI-specific product depth on top of that foundation.

Experience

Technical Programme Manager (client: Vodafone UK) — Interactive Management Solutions Ltd

Apr 2019 – Present · Newbury, UK

- **Turned a scoped circuit migration into a £6M cost-out programme I proposed, scoped and ran.** Audited Vodafone's entire third-party link inventory — duplicate links, cheaper alternatives, dead circuits still being billed — verified every decommission three ways (traffic data, inventory records, service-owner confirmation) with a rollback plan on every migration, and delivered **over £6M of recurring opex removed**, sustained three years, with a team of nine.
- **Automated a manual, repetitive workflow after watching how the work was actually done.** Site configuration scripts were being hand-written, 20–25 minutes each; built a macro that separated the small part that genuinely varied per site from the majority that never did. Cut script creation to **under 5 minutes — a 75–80% reduction** — recovering roughly 90–120 engineer-hours a year and eliminating manual transcription errors.
- **Converted a security compliance mandate into a commercial decision.** Led removal of high-risk-vendor equipment from the core network under UK government direction — rather than buying replacement capacity, rerouted the traffic onto Vodafone's own existing network and let the associated third-party contract lapse, meeting the mandate while avoiding a new recurring cost.
- **Restructured a vendor relationship that internal escalation couldn't fix.** Took the delivery evidence directly to the vendor's own director and rebuilt how the work was governed — mandatory per-site templates, payment released only on validated completion. Delivery improved immediately; the model is still in use today.
- Own four high- and low-level network designs through to approved proof-of-concept; manage nine direct reports and third-party vendors including BT and Cisco.

Manager — Tata Communications Transformation Services

Dec 2017 – Apr 2019 · Pune, India

- Designed access-to-core connectivity and led end-to-end fibre migrations for a tier-1 operator, including the transition off BT and Virgin Media leased fibre.

Technical Solution Leader — Aricent (now Capgemini)

Feb 2012 – Oct 2017 · Gurugram, India & Newbury, UK

- Led the Vodafone UK ring-migration and Move/Add/Change programmes; provided global technical support on Infinera 8600-series optical platforms.

Earlier: Test Engineer, Ericsson (2009–2012) — core switching node testing and 3G radio product introduction support in Sweden and China.

Skills

- **Product & programme judgment:** unscoped problem-finding, business-case development, opex/capex framing, risk-based prioritisation, stakeholder alignment across engineering, vendors and government
- **Building toward AI product:** completing a 12-week AI product management programme (expected October 2026); the underlying instinct — separate what varies from what doesn't, automate the invariant — is demonstrated above, not just studied
- **Delivery & technical depth:** HLD/LLD design, multi-vendor programme delivery, network audits, RAN/transmission/core (2G–4G/LTE), Ciena & Infinera platforms
- **Tools & frameworks:** PRINCE2 Agile, SAFe, Power BI programme reporting, CRAMER, Microsoft Project

Education & Certifications

- AI Product Management — "Land PM Job" programme, in progress, expected completion October 2026
- Leading Strategic Projects and Programmes — University of Oxford, Saïd Business School (Grade A)
- PRINCE2 Agile® Foundation & Practitioner — AXELOS · Certified SAFe® Practitioner
- PGDBA, Operations Management — Symbiosis, Pune
- BTech, Electronics & Communication Engineering — SVIET, Chandigarh (college topper)

SC cleared, active. References available on request.