

Charanjit Bakshi

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

Personal Profile

Technical Programme Manager with 16 years delivering multi-vendor telecom infrastructure programmes end to end — network audits, core upgrades, vendor governance and compliance-driven change. At Vodafone, self-initiated an audit of the entire third-party link inventory and ran the resulting decommissioning programme with a team of nine, removing over £6M of recurring operating expenditure across thousands of circuits over three years, and led removal of high-risk-vendor equipment from the core network under UK government direction. SC cleared, PRINCE2 Agile and SAFe certified.

Experience

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

Apr 2019 – Present · Newbury, UK

- Delivered a three-year programme decommissioning third-party circuits, dark fibre and leased capacity across core and access — audited thousands of circuits against traffic data and CRAMER inventory records, ran every migration with a rollback plan, and overlapped supplier cease-notice with internal work to cut ~30 days of duplicated billing per circuit — removing **over £6M of recurring third-party operating expenditure** with a team of nine.
- Led removal of high-risk-vendor equipment from the core network under UK government security direction — met the mandate by rerouting core traffic onto Vodafone's own Ciena network and letting a third-party dark-fibre contract lapse rather than buying replacement capacity.
- Authored four high- and low-level network designs through to approved proof-of-concept; validated design-team output daily on a core/access backhaul redesign that removed **45% of links** while preserving resilience and freeing bandwidth for 4G rollout.
- Executed core upgrades across **700+ devices** and designed core-to-core (MTX–MTX) wavelength connectivity for resilience; introduced an end-to-end light test as standard practice after physically tracing an undocumented circuit between exchange buildings.
- Restructured governance of an underperforming vendor — mandatory per-site templates and payment released only on validated completion; the templates remain in use and validation-before-payment became standard practice across networks.
- Built lightweight automation for site configuration scripting, cutting per-script time by 75–80% and removing a class of manual transcription error.
- Manages nine direct reports; trained 15 new team members into the function.

Manager — Tata Communications Transformation Services

Dec 2017 – Apr 2019 · Pune, India

- Ran end-to-end fibre migrations for a tier-1 operator — site surveys, fibre-delivery scheduling and deployment planning for Infinera optical equipment — designing connectivity from access through to core.
- Supported the transition off BT and Virgin Media leased fibre onto alternative capacity, protecting live services through cutover.

Technical Solution Leader — Aricent (now Capgemini)

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

- Provisioned and migrated transmission services — TDM, Abis, Iub, IPsec, PTP, QoS — across Vodafone UK's backhaul network using the CRAMER planning tool, as team lead for the 2G/3G ring-migration programme (2013–14).
- Led the Move/Add/Change workstream for Vodafone UK's transmission network (2014–15) and provided global technical support on Infinera 8600-series optical platforms to operators worldwide.

Earlier: Test Engineer, Ericsson (2009–2012) — tested core switching nodes (BSC, MSC-MGW, HLR, GMSC, MSC-server) and supported new 3G radio product introduction in Sweden and China.

Skills

- **Programme delivery:** multi-vendor programme management, inception-to-cutover, risk and rollback planning, business case/ROI, network audits, compliance-driven programme delivery
- **Network infrastructure:** dark fibre, leased capacity, core/access/backhaul, optical transport and wavelength design, RAN & transmission (2G–4G/LTE)
- **Vendor & stakeholder management:** vendor governance, payment-milestone structuring, cross-functional and government-facing delivery
- **Frameworks & tools:** PRINCE2 Agile, SAFe, Lean/poka-yoke process improvement, CRAMER, Microsoft Project, Power BI programme reporting

Education & Certifications

- Leading Strategic Project and Programme — University of Oxford, Saïd Business School (Grade A)
- PRINCE2 Agile® Foundation & Practitioner — AXELOS · Certified SAFe® Practitioner

- CCNA (Routing & Switching) — Cisco
- PGDBA, Operations Management — Symbiosis, Pune
- BTech, Electronics & Communication Engineering — SVIET, Chandigarh (college topper)

SC cleared, active. References available on request.