Vitalijs Arkulinskis, P.Eng., MBA

Canadian Citizen | Top Secret Clearance in Process

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Summary

Six years in product roles, built on six years in engineering, data analysis and Python development, including close to six years in defence and regulated environments. Owned budgets up to $8M and teams of 30+; built annual roadmaps and ran discovery through workshops, interviews and demos with stakeholders from HR, IT, finance and military users, turning standards and ambiguous requirements into product decisions. Now delivering complex ISR software in line with NATO standards.

Experience

Anvil **March 2026 – Present**

Product Owner *Defence Intelligence Software (Forge)*

- With no telemetry and only second-hand access to end users, ran validation sessions with internal stakeholders that surfaced military task verbs, importance of map markup, and XMPP goals driving technical and design decisions.
- Prioritized engineering implementation of GMTI and FMV STANAGs with APP-6/MIL-STD-2525 symbology.
- Translated ISR sensor visualization needs into a sensor control panel that users describe as powerful and easy to use.
- Delivered 50+ stories, including map interface, AOIs and sensor panels leading to successful demos to CAF.
- Efficiently sequenced work, like minimap markup and sensor controls, cutting later work from 5 stories to 1.
- Defined the team's Definition of Ready and reworked story formats to maximize service quality to the team.
- Decomposed 6 epics, and built a 120+ item prioritized backlog validated with design.
- Shaped demo storytelling and raised the team's polish bar; strong demo reception contributed to an expanded budget.
- Configured a Claude workflow to draft stories and Gherkin criteria for PO review; developers noted clearer criteria.

Vooban **July 2025 – March 2026**

Solutions Architect *AI Project Delivery*

- Ran 40+ discovery workshops across three aerospace and manufacturing clients, mapping current processes with operations, procurement, and IT stakeholders - ranking AI use cases by value, data readiness and feasibility.
- Turned workshop findings into scoped plans, responsive during priority shifts, negotiated staffing and budget allocation.
- Owned backlog and delivery; every plan was adopted with at most minor revisions, to strong client praise.
- Delivered an API system enabling a client to double the processing speed of email-based purchase requests.
- Designed an ML-driven API forecasting part utilization to reduce inventory holding costs by 10%.

Hydro-Québec **April 2023 – May 2025**

Delivery Manager / Product Owner Lead *Analytics and Web Application Delivery*

- Forecast, allocated and defended an $8M annual analytics platform budget, with bi-weekly status reporting.
- Managed 30+ direct reports across 5 agile teams (4 Scrum, 1 Kanban), including 4-5 Product Owners.
- Ran monthly prioritization workshops with HR, Finance and Energy client groups, laying out trade-offs between competing requests and securing sign-off on quarterly plans.
- Built the annual roadmap and delivery plan, wrote 4 epics per quarter, and adapted the plan to client demo feedback.
- Delivered 7 data availability projects, 2 web apps and 10+ Power BI dashboards for HR, Finance and Energy.
- Translated data governance and security rules into platform requirements for regulated energy data.

Ixiasoft **October 2021 – March 2023**

Product Owner *Web Application Delivery*

- Ran a repeating cycle on a fast-growing documentation platform: gathered input from customer representatives and support, demoed, prioritized, won VP approval and briefed developers.
- Collected post-release feedback from customer representatives and sales to set the next cycle's priorities.
- Built the annual feature roadmap, wrote ∼1 epic per month, managed the backlog and advised on UX.
- Delivered versions 6.6 and 6.7 while maintaining a highly motivated development team.
- Translated requirements from the DITA standard into product features for technical writers.

CAE **November 2017 – August 2021**

Product Owner – promoted from Process Improvement Analyst *July 2020 – August 2021*

- Made the case for an in-house automation team over a Deloitte offering, then launched it with a $1.4M annual budget.
- Built the case for renewal and expansion, growing the budget to $1.7M on the strength of delivery results.
- Interviewed 5 finance process owners repeatedly to rank automation opportunities by hours saved.
- Built the annual roadmap from that ranking, ran prioritization, and reported to the VP of Finance, VP of IT and CFO.

- Managed 6 full-stack developers and their priorities reaching 200 hours/month with a 9.4/10 Officevibe manager score.
- Kept automation ITAR-compliant by processing military invoice and controlled data on dedicated hardware.

Process Improvement Analyst *November 2017 – July 2020*

- Automated 4,000+ manual hours and programmed system modules generating $1.5M in inventory value.
- Secured component supply through 3 predictive Power BI dashboards.
- Trained 3 interns for cross-team success using a self-developed learning system.

Mattel **January 2016 – November 2017**

Cost Engineer *Business Process Automation*

- Negotiated $500,000 in savings with China-based manufacturing while increasing parts-per-toy count by 5%.
- Managed 5 product lines with a 97% cost compliance success rate, including Pokémon, Call of Duty and Halo.
- Developed internal tools accelerating cost agreements, reducing timelines from 2 weeks to 3 days.

Bombardier, Dassault Systèmes, McGill **January 2012 – August 2015**

Intern (2 years) *Business Process Automation*

- Managed design communications for over 200 change requests for the CSeries aircraft.
- Developed a mesh re-usability method generating recurring savings of $100k/year.
- Filmed and edited 5 lab tutorials for students, improving material comprehension.

Education

Master of Business Administration **March 2018 – January 2019**

Quantic School of Business and Technology *Washington, DC*

Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering **September 2010 – December 2015**

McGill University *Montreal, Quebec*

Certifications

Professional Engineer (P.Eng.) | *Ordre des ingénieurs du Québec* **December 2018**
Professional Scrum Product Owner I (PSPO I) | *Scrum.org* **October 2020**
Software Product Management | *University of Alberta* **February 2023**
Generative AI Fundamentals | *Databricks* **August 2023**
Microsoft Certified: Azure Fundamentals | *Microsoft* **September 2025**
Public Speaking Skills Professional Certificate | *Toastmasters International* **September 2025**

Extracurricular Activities

McGill Robotics **September 2014 – August 2015**

Team Lead, Software Development *McGill University*

- Led a team of four students on the "Computer Vision for Autonomous Underwater Vehicle" section, using Robot Operating System (ROS), OpenCV and C++/Python to develop variable-adaptive underwater object detection.

AIESEC McGill **January 2013 – January 2014**

Team Lead, Business Development *McGill University*

- Led four students to promote AIESEC to 80+ students and 20 companies through sales meetings and on-campus events, achieving record engagement, translated to 3 internship sales.

Personal Projects

Plan Plate - SaaS | *Python, JS, CSS, Anvil Works* **June 2025**

- Restaurant booking software inspired by my father: owners create a "Book Now" button for their business, filling a gap for simple, well-priced, integrable solutions.
- Fully functional software that has served 6,000+ customers across two restaurants.

Skills

Languages: English, French, Russian, Latvian, beginner Spanish
Product Tools: Jira, Confluence, Claude (projects, skills), Miro, draw.io, Mermaid, Google Workspace
Defence & ISR: GMTI and FMV workflows, STANAG 4607, STANAG 4609, APP-6 / MIL-STD-2525
Programming Languages: Python, SQL, VBA, JavaScript, HTML/CSS
Development Tools: Git, Docker, VS Code, PyCharm, Trello, Anvil Works
Libraries: pandas, NumPy, Matplotlib, Scikit-learn, BeautifulSoup, Flask, Django