

Lydia Ash
Senior Engineering Manager
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Professional Experience

Responsibility

Products

2005 - Present Google

Senior Engineering Manager

Currently a member of Google's Transformation team consulting internally on organizational effectiveness, incentive structures, and their alignment with corporate strategy. Working with teams to assess activities across organizations evaluating business processes, responsibilities, impact, and gaps, and driving process excellence using data to inform decisions.

Recruited by Google to build an engineering organization responsible for testing all products produced at the Seattle/Kirkland sites. Promoted and asked to take on management of testing several projects in other engineering sites including all products in the Client software business unit. Designed the organizational strategy for the New York and Boston test organizations. Managed significant number of concurrent project deliverables while developing teams and individual career paths. Restructured organization to increase impact with constrained resources. Established credibility of the test engineering teams and maintained executive confidence by successfully launching products on a rapid schedule. Contributed to design of products developing testing strategies appropriate to each product, establishing release criteria, and providing direction on methodologies. Established standardized metrics for analyzing defect trends, measuring coverage, and monitoring progress. Developed new strategic goals and resource timetables to satisfy technical and business requirements. Built and directed a data analysis team to work with the webmaster SEO community.

Recognized by TechFlash as one of Seattle's top 100 women in technology.

Google Desktop
Google Toolbar
Google Updater
Google Pack
Google Maps (GeoData and pathing)
Google Apps for Your Domain
Gmail
Google Talk
Google Calendar
Google Click-to-Call
Google Website Optimizer
Google Sitemaps
Webmaster Tools
Lively
Google Video and Video Player
Google Music Trends
Various Google Ads optimization projects

1999 - 2005 Microsoft

Lead Software Development Engineer in Test

Technical lead for testing the Outlook Web Access product with direct ownership of the key features. Engaged in risk analysis, feature costing, test planning, and feature set decisions. Recruited by the NetDocs Web Access team to manage their testing strategy and test engineers. Managed teams through product definition, design, and testing stages. Built the testing teams that owned the most visible areas of the Exchange 2003 release as well as many of the core features. After launching OWA 2003, merged the test engineering team into the Server and Tools Division. Managed two teams of development engineers focused on testing Outlook Web Access 12. Drove architecture reviews and testing for OWA 12. Recognized by senior management for impact via several promotions and awards.

Microsoft Outlook Web Access
Microsoft Exchange
Microsoft Outlook
NetDocs Web Access (unreleased)

1998 - 1999 Endura Corporation

Project Specialist and QA Engineer

Project management specialist for Endura's support team. Improved communications and coordination with other departments, which led to accurate project planning and reduced elapsed issue resolution time by half. Delivered first usability assessment for the core functionality of Advanced Order Management Enterprise suite -- identifying many workflow redesigns to optimize user interactions. Asked to join the engineering team as a QA engineer. Planned testing, developed test scripts, and executed tests on Endura's suite of applications. Lead tester on automated regression test suite project.

Advanced Order Management
Enterprise suite

1995 - 1998 State University of New York

Academic Specialist and Web Programmer

Complete management of computing resources and personnel for the School of Art + Design. Worked with faculty members to design and develop multimedia courseware. Team member working with university committee to define, execute, and deliver the university's first planned website.

Multimedia courseware
Network administration
Facility planning and management

Publications

Author of the book *The Web Testing Companion*

This book is one of the foundation books now given to new Google employees and is highly acclaimed in the web development community.

Consulting expert for the recently published book *Software Requirement Patterns*

Conference of the Association for Software Testing (CAST) 2007 - *Data Set Analysis*

Select Presentations

Grace Hopper Conference 2009 panelist - *Women and the Flat Connected World*

Technology and Education keynote - *Building the Skills for Success*

Conference Chair for GTAC 2008

Women in Leadership Symposium panelist 2008

New York Test Engineering Forum panelist 2007

Conference of the Association for Software Testing (CAST) 2007 - *Data Set Analysis*

QA SIG and CAST 2007 panelist - *Software Testing Exhibition*

Society of Women Engineers 2007 - *Working in the Innovation Factory*

University of Washington 2006 - *Essential Skills for Web Testers*

Pacific Northwest Software Quality Conference (PNSQC) 2006 - *A Peek Inside Google's Innovation Factory*

Google presentation 2006 - *Network Analysis*

Association for Women in Computing 2006 - *AJAX in Action*

Amazon engineering talk 2006 - *5 Ways to Make Your Web Testing More Effective*

Delivered Google workshops on presentation skills, time management, and negotiation

Education

B. Sc. State University of New York - Magna cum Laude