

Michael Flanigan

Product Leader · Director of Product · VP of Product

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Senior product executive with 10+ years building and shipping products across fintech, payments, edtech, insurance, logistics, and cybersecurity. Track record leading engineering teams of 15–20+, running executive and board-level presentations, and owning client and vendor relationships alongside the roadmap. Translates ambiguous business problems into prioritized plans and delivers outcomes at scale — equal parts technical depth and business instinct, able to go deep on architecture conversations and hold the room in a boardroom. Georgia Tech-trained engineer who builds AI infrastructure and home automation systems outside of work, and treats products the same way: built from first principles, not templates.

EXPERIENCE

Senior Technical Product Owner — FIS

Jan 2026 – Present

Global fintech and payments technology platform — Banking & Payments (division acquired from Global Payments)

Payments API — card and DDA payment processing

- Own the product roadmap for FIS's payments API platform, which processes all card and DDA transactions across the organization
- Serve as primary liaison between onshore and offshore engineering teams (15 engineers) — aligning priorities, unblocking delivery, maintaining velocity across distributed teams
- Troubleshoot API integration issues across 4 downstream dependent teams, acting as the cross-functional escalation point between product, engineering, and downstream consumers
- Drive agile practices and ceremonies across the full delivery team
- Present roadmap and delivery status directly to executive stakeholders, translating technical tradeoffs into business impact

Data Gateway — mainframe data access layer for modernized applications

- Define and maintain the product roadmap for Data Gateway, the central data access channel for 20+ modernized applications
- Lead 15 engineers across data delivery teams — coordinating dependencies and resolving blockers across a multi-team architecture
- Run all agile processes and ceremonies — sprint planning, backlog refinement, retrospectives, stakeholder demos

Senior Technical Product Owner — Global Payments

Feb 2023 – Jan 2026

Fortune 500 payment processing platform — Banking & Merchant Services

Card Users — consumer-facing card product

- Owned the end-to-end product roadmap for card user experiences serving Global Payments' primary client base
- Drove prioritization across engineering, design, and compliance with a focus on delivery velocity and stakeholder alignment

Data Gateway — internal data platform / modernization backbone

- Product owner for the company's core data infrastructure, serving every engineering team in the organization
- Primary point of contact across all teams for data modernization — triaging dependencies and driving strategic change
- Translated ambiguous modernization goals into actionable roadmaps for engineers working at the data layer
- High-visibility, cross-functional scope: technical depth and strong stakeholder influence across the full organization

Accredited online degree platform — EdTech startup

- Built and led the product and engineering team from the ground up, overseeing both product strategy and technology delivery
- Decomposed company vision into a prioritized roadmap, balancing stakeholder input with available engineering resources
- Managed data-driven conversion and onboarding pipelines to improve student acquisition and retention
- Reduced combined infrastructure and development costs by approximately 80% by bringing in a new development team, moving off proprietary ML tooling onto open-source models, and rebuilding the platform in 6 months
- Led cybersecurity and CCPA/GDPR compliance initiatives across the platform
- Interfaced with regulatory bodies and NGO education partners to ensure compliance requirements were met
- Owned a \$250K technology budget in conjunction with executive leadership

EARLIER EXPERIENCE

Senior Software Product Manager — Mile Auto	Jun 2021 – Jan 2022
Technical Product Manager — ScaleSec	Oct 2020 – Jun 2021
Product Analyst — Ware2Go (Google)	Jan 2019 – Oct 2020
Business Analyst — Backbase	Oct 2018 – Jan 2019
Senior Business Analyst — North Highland	May 2015 – Jul 2018
Co-founder — Covello	Sep 2013 – Dec 2015

EDUCATION

Georgia Institute of Technology
B.S. Chemical Engineering (2005 – 2010)

INDUSTRIES

Fintech Payments EdTech
Insurance Cybersecurity Logistics
Consulting

SKILLS

PRODUCT

Roadmap planning Agile / Scrum Discovery Stakeholder management
OKR / KPI frameworks Competitive analysis 0→1 & scaling Executive presentations
Vendor & client relations

TECHNICAL

REST API SQL AWS JIRA Confluence HubSpot Google Analytics
MicroStrategy

CERTIFICATIONS

Certified ScrumMaster (CSM) — Scrum Alliance, 2020 AWS Certified Cloud Practitioner — AWS, 2020