

CEDRIC STRICKLAND

Head of Product, Gmail Enterprise & AI at Google

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SUMMARY

Product executive building AI at consumer and enterprise scale since 2013. Today **Head of Product for Gmail Enterprise & AI at Google**, owning the AI-first roadmap, enterprise growth and monetization, and global regulatory product strategy for one of the world's most-used products (2.5B+ users). Previously a decade at Microsoft on Windows, most recently as **Principal Product Management Lead over a 60-person organization**, shipping ML-driven releases to **900M+ devices** and activating the **first 100M Windows 10 users**. Founder of Neua, an applied-AI product lab where I still ship production software end to end.

EXPERIENCE

Head of Product, Gmail Enterprise & AI

Jul 2023 – Present

Google · Seattle, WA

- Own AI-first product strategy for Gmail Enterprise, a 2.5B+ user product, covering roadmap, monetization, and enterprise experience across a cross-functional organization spanning product, engineering, design, and go-to-market.
- Landed the agentic roadmap for Gmail: personal agents and no-code automations now shipping publicly in **Gemini Spark** and **Google Workspace Studio**.
- Presented "*Reimagine email: Introducing AI power for Gmail*" on stage at **Google Cloud Next '26**, and lead the Gemini-in-Gmail enterprise narrative for executive and customer audiences.
- Shape roadmap commitments and AI investments behind Google Workspace's enterprise strategy; publicly referenced customers include **Meta**, who joined Google on stage at Cloud Next '26.
- Define Gmail Enterprise competitive strategy against Microsoft 365, converting executive and customer input into shipped product decisions.
- Lead product design for global regulatory readiness across the **EU DMA, DSA, and German FCO Case B7-70/21**, establishing consent, data-separation, interoperability, and human-in-the-loop patterns for AI features.

Founder (concurrent)

Jul 2024 – Present

Neua · Seattle, WA

- Solo applied-AI practice and the hands-on counterpart to the day job: ship production software end to end (**6 live products and 7 more in beta or development on a shared platform of 54 in-house packages**) using the agent-driven development workflows I set strategy for at scale.
- Built **Neua Nexus**, an agentic team workspace where human teammates and AI operators work from the same queue.
- Created **Vibe Check**, a code-analysis toolchain that gives AI coding agents production-readiness feedback loops, distributed through an MCP server (private beta).
- Founded **Neua Publishing House**; authored and illustrated its debut title.

Principal Product Management Lead, Windows

Oct 2019 – Jul 2023

Microsoft · Redmond, WA

- Directed Windows commercial and consumer product strategy, leading a **60-person cross-functional organization with 10 direct reports** across release management, growth, and platform security.
- Led the Windows secure supply-chain response to **Executive Order 14028**, protecting Microsoft's eligibility for major U.S. federal contracts.
- Cut release toil **40%** and increased release agility **2.5x** by launching Release365, an intelligent rollout portal.
- Delivered Microsoft Teams Rooms to Surface Hub customers, extending B2B Teams experiences into a new hardware ecosystem.

Senior Product Manager, AI & Machine Learning, Windows

Oct 2015 – Oct 2019

Microsoft · Redmond, WA

- Led the Windows rollout team, go-to-market strategy, and AI platform work across a 40+ person cross-functional team.
- Shipped semiannual Windows releases to **900M+ monthly active devices**, pioneering Windows Intelligent Rollouts.
- Turned randomized throttling into a production AI-driven experimentation platform, cutting recurring engineering cost **90%** and compressing rollout cycles from weeks to days.
- Designed Windows update anomaly-detection models, increasing regression and incident detection **10x**.
- Shipped an on-device ML model for personalized update reboot scheduling, lifting CSAT **40%** and drawing national press coverage.
- Shipped the Windows 10 Creators Update privacy overhaul, rebuilding out-of-box setup so every user explicitly chooses their privacy and diagnostic settings instead of inheriting defaults.
- Led go-to-market for the 2019 launch of **Xbox Game Pass for PC**, the entry point to what Microsoft later reported as a multi-billion-dollar subscription business.

Product Manager, Consumer Growth, Windows

Jun 2013 – Oct 2015

Microsoft · Redmond, WA

- Activated the **first 100M Windows 10 users** through the reservation experiment, the Get Windows 10 app, and the shift to over-the-air delivery.
- Moved **500M+** Windows 7 and Windows 8 devices onto current, secure releases via a B2C agile sprint program, lifting CSAT, security posture, and the monetizable upgrade base.
- Shipped the Windows Update Assistant and Media Creation Tool 0-to-1, reaching **50M+** commercial and power users, cutting media-related support call volume **84% in four months** and lifting customer product experience **10 points** (*Microsoft Blue Egg Cross-Organizational Award*).

Co-Founder & Chief Product Officer *(concurrent)*

May 2015 – Mar 2017

Fablr · Seattle, WA

- Co-founded a social podcast app for shared listening and group spaces, and led product, research, and design end to end; built the prototypes and product architecture, and pitched prospective investors and acquirers.

EDUCATION

B.S. Computer Science, University of Notre Dame, with Business IT Management & Economics (Mendoza College of Business)

Executive Education: Product Strategy for Professionals, Berkeley Haas School of Business

LEADERSHIP & RECOGNITION

- **Adjunct Professor**, University of Washington. Created and taught CSS 566: Software Management to 30+ graduate students (Feb–Jul 2023)
- **Speaker:** Google Cloud Next '26 (Las Vegas) · Panelist, Black Tech Mixer by TechRise Global (Seattle, 2024) · Google PMConnect (Chicago, 2025) · Texas State MathWorks (San Marcos, 2022 & 2025)
- **Author & Illustrator:** *My Black Job: A Story of Black Careers* (Neua Publishing House, 2025); distributed via Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Apple Books, and public-library systems. Currently writing a literary fable on judgment in the age of intelligent machines.
- **Community Lead**, Google Washington (200+ FTEs); Microsoft BAM ERG Lead
- **Awards:** Blue Egg Cross-Organizational Award, Microsoft · Gates Millennium Scholar · QuestBridge Scholar · Eagle Scout · NSBE member since 2010

SKILLS

Product & AI: AI Agents · Generative AI · LLM Evaluation · RAG · Responsible AI · Platform Strategy · Growth & Experimentation · Enterprise SaaS Monetization

Operating: Executive Stakeholder Management · Regulatory Strategy (EU DMA/DSA) · Organizational Leadership & Hiring · Go-to-Market, Pricing & Packaging