Ganesan Arjunan

UX Strategy Leader | Leading Product Design Teams & Processes | Co-Owning Roadmaps & Features |
AI + Platform UX | Cross-Functional Partner | Systems Builder | Design Thinking Coach

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Summary

UX Strategy Leader with 15+ years leading multi-disciplinary product design teams, managing end-to-end processes, and delivering scalable systems across AI, cloud, and global publishing.

I co-own roadmaps and features with product/engineering, scale design operations, mentor talent, and align 100+ global stakeholders — while staying 100% hands-on in design, prototyping, and user testing to ensure business impact.

Led & hands on design for platforms serving 25M+ users, driving 40% content reuse, 50% faster decisions, and 30% faster delivery. Blend systems thinking, human-centered design, and strategic storytelling to boost adoption, maturity, and team performance.

Signature Projects

Hilti – Unlocking $200K Savings & 90 Hours Monthly via Real-Time Asset Tracking - Case Study
Dual-brand product design; boosted productivity 40%, cut safety incidents 30%

Oracle AI Data – Cutting Data Access from 2+ Hours to One Click, Driving 30% Adoption Growth - Case Study
Led UX for 8 AI tools; accelerated delivery by 5 weeks, reduced design revisions 20%

Rakuten – Reducing Server Provisioning from 2 Weeks to Minutes, Boosting Adoption by 30% - Case Study
Designed instant & tracked server assignment; simplified cloud service operations

Professional Experience

Design Lead | Condé Nast | Bangalore | 2024 - Present

- Led & hands-on designed across 7 brands & 24 markets; enabled 40% story reuse, cut rework 30%
- Managed design team & processes; aligned 100+ stakeholders, improved decision speed 20%
- Unified editorial tools into single planner; boosted throughput 25%, reduced tool-switching 40%
- Established design governance; raised UX consistency 35%, cut design debt 20%

UX Principal | Oracle | Bangalore | 2022 - 2024

- Led UX for 8 AI/ML tools; cut data-to-decision from 2+ hrs to one click
- Partnered with PM/Data leads on roadmap; sped delivery 15%
- Set team rituals & UX KPIs; boosted adoption 30%, cut rework 20%

UX Architect | Rakuten | Bangalore | 2019 - 2022

- Directed UX for 19 cloud tools; launched platform-wide design system
- Improved workflow clarity; cut task handoff delays 25%

Earlier Roles

- Trimble (2016–2019) – Built reusable systems for dual brands; reduced dev time 30%
- UX Manager | Harman | Bangalore | 2013–2015 - Led smart grid UX; mentored designers
- Member Technical Staff | Ness Technologies | Bangalore 2012 - 2013 - Official football apps
- UX Designer | Zylog Systems | Chennai | 2010 - 2012 - Redesigned HR/Payroll platforms

Design Sangam – Nonprofit Rural Innovation

- Trained 3,000+, placed 20+ rural UX Designers, & led a 17-village design festival - Case Study

Core Strengths

Leadership & Strategy

UX Strategy & Product Vision, Design Operations, Cross-Functional Leadership, Design Culture & Coaching

End-to-End Delivery

Product Discovery & Delivery, End-to-End Design Lifecycle, Systems Thinking & Service Design, AI/ML Interfaces, Data-Driven UX

Research & Insight Activation

User Research, UX Metrics & ROI Analysis, Data-Informed Decision Making

Facilitation & Influence

Design Thinking & Facilitation, Storytelling & Strategic Influence, Stakeholder Alignment

Continuous Growth

Adaptability, Continuous Learning, Driving Design Maturity

Tools & Collaboration

Figma, FigJam, Miro, Adobe CC – UI design, prototyping, journey mapping, and collaborative planning

Agile & Sprint Planning – Integrated delivery with product and engineering

UX Writing, Design Tokens, Accessibility Tools – Executional excellence

Tool-Agnostic Mindset – Adaptable to team velocity, process maturity, and collaboration style

Education

IDEO – Designing Strategy (ID - 9318-2118329) - Verify

IDEO – Leading for Creativity (ID - 7471-2118329) - Verify

Bachelor of Computer Applications – Madurai Kamaraj University