

Position Specification

Confidential

Vice President, Application and Platform Architecture

The Company

Our client provides wealth management, securities brokerage, banking, money management, and financial advisory services through its subsidiaries.

They provide financial services to individuals and institutional clients through two segments – Investor Services and Advisor Services. The Investor Services segment provides retail brokerage and banking services to individual investors, retirement plan services, and corporate brokerage services. The Advisor Services segment provides custodial, trading, and support services to independent investment advisors, and retirement business services to independent retirement plan advisors and record keepers.

The Position

Overview

The Vice President of Application and Platform Architecture will be responsible for the research, development and specification of application architecture for the company and lead an elite organization of solutions architects that establish technology standards and offer architecture services to the entire firm. This leader will ensure that the company develops, selects and adopts best-in-class patterns, architectures, products and solutions, enabling the company's thousands of technologists to provide industry-leading solutions that exceed the expectations of the millions of company clients and their trillions of dollars in assets.

Working with his or her colleagues in the Office of the CTO and with senior technology leadership (executive and technical), the successful candidate will establish the ongoing vision for the company's application and platform architecture, embracing Cloud technologies and practices, enterprise-scale platforms and middleware, innovative and rapid client web technologies, and best-in-class IaaS/PaaS solutions. It will be important to be finely tuned into market trends, nominating, piloting and introducing technologies into the technology strategy. And, he or she will incorporate functional and non-functional dimensions into enterprise solutions, inclusive of the DevOps journey and continued implementation of solutions that optimize accountability, productivity, availability, scalability, and sustainability.

This team of architects will partner with other architects and technologists throughout the firm. The successful candidate needs extraordinary technical knowledge across a wide variety of platforms and languages coupled with the leadership skills capable of inspiring/guiding highly experienced and qualified staff, and guiding and leading thousands of application developers to understand and adopt the target architecture.

This is an officer position and a member of the Technology Extended Senior Management team (ESMT). The role is critical to the sustained, strategic leadership of the company in its market. In a truly collaborative culture, this leader will partner with and employ the services of all the senior technologists at the company, including the Senior Management Team (Technology SMT), Technology Strategy Leadership Team, CTO Working Group, and other domain-oriented leadership teams.

Location:

This role can be based in Austin, Texas; Denver, Colorado or San Francisco, California

Reporting Relationship

Reports to the Senior Vice President of the Office of the CTO. This VP role will lead a team of approximately 40 of the company's most senior architects and guide the application development throughout the company, consisting of over 2000 software engineers (and 7000 technologists).

Responsibilities

- Lead, guide and specify target application and platform architectures for the company
- Maintain a healthy understanding of market trends through direct research and participation, as well as through others.
- Lead team in developing and advancing components of the technology strategy and in high-profile project/solution architecture, including Application Modernization and Digital.
- Build upon the existing credibility and good relationships across the organization, further establishing the technical excellence and reputation of this group through effective partnership, thought leadership and delivering results.
- Partner with Enterprise Architecture in the Office of the CTO to define, evolve and lead the architecture practice at the company.
- Partner with Infrastructure Architecture in the Office of the CTO to lead Cloud, data center and infrastructure strategies.
- Partner with Technology Strategy in the Office of the CTO to manage, communicate and develop the company's overall Technology Strategy.
- Partner with Delivery Experience in the Office of the CTO to ensure that developers and technologists at the company have the best tools, practices and experience to continuously deliver great product into the hands of the company's clients.
- Oversee and develop an extraordinarily talented team of architects to provide architectural consultation and solution design and technology research.
- Partner with the business and executives throughout the firm to represent the capabilities of technology and the value to the business.

The Candidate

Education

- A Bachelor's degree is required and a master's degree and / or other professional certification is considered a plus.



Professional Qualifications

- A minimum of 15 years of experience in a technology leadership role, including management and application architecture. This will include both a broad base of experience and deep technical knowledge across multiple programming languages and technology stacks such as:
 - 15+ years of developer experience, including fluency in multiple programming languages,
 - 10+ years leading application architecture,
 - 10+ years leading large-scale enterprise technology solutions,
 - 5+ years of middleware and infrastructure development and management experience,
 - 5+ years of Agile experience.
- Track record of leading, attracting, retaining, inspiring high-IQ, highly-experienced, highly-talented technologists.
- Recognition as a thought-leader and change-maker with experience advocating architectures that have measurable and evident value.
- Demonstrated capacity of success in a heavy Agile/scrum environment as well as tenured experience as a software developer, preferably in Java and cloud, delivering multiple client-facing products.

Personal Characteristics

- Pragmatic, results-oriented leader
- Collaborative and goal-oriented; focused on long-term value and results above all else.
- Experience successfully leading change through complex environments and organizational structures.
- Outstanding written and verbal communication skills with demonstrated ability to communicate effectively with all levels of an organization.
- Strong emotional intelligence/maturity and substantial senior level executive presence.
- Strong influence skills with the ability to shape, define and present a complete and thorough picture of the company's technology environment including developing thoughtfully-written action plans and clear/regular communication to executive management.
- Experienced in effectively assessing, selecting and developing talent for the firm; adept at providing balanced, direct and actionable feedback to employees. Experience managing multiple priorities and overseeing distinct teams with varied strengths.
- Thrives on initiating, building and cultivating strong authentic relationships inside and outside the group; highly collaborative; navigates and activates alignment across organizational silos.

To learn more about this opportunity or provide a confidential referral, please contact:

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