RE: Reference for Vincent Dirks

To Whom It May Concern,

It is my pleasure to provide a reference for Vincent Dirks, with whom I've had the privilege of working closely for the past three years.

Having hired Vincent Dirks directly into my team as Senior Quality Engineer, I've witnessed their exceptional contributions across several high-profile projects within the Bank. Vincent Dirks consistently demonstrated adaptability by seamlessly transitioning into critical projects at a moment's notice, showcasing remarkable flexibility and commitment.

Initially, Vincent Dirks played a pivotal role within the Mobile Squads in the Digital domain, leveraging their expertise in automating and testing iOS and Android mobile apps using Selenium, Appium, Xcode, and XCUIT. Their impact extended beyond the technical realm, as they were instrumental in promoting the adoption of Splunk and other vital observability tools throughout the organization.

Recognizing a need for their skills elsewhere, Vincent Dirks made a smooth transition to the D365 KiwiSaver squad, contributing significantly by building a Selenium Webdriver framework using cucumber and Java for testing in-house D365 applications. Their strong observability acumen facilitated a shift to the Observability Squad, where Vincent Dirks was a driving force for the introduction, training, and advocacy of the Observability Framework, benefiting a broader spectrum beyond the initial Mobile Squads.

Moreover, Vincent Dirks made substantial contributions to the newly created Test Environment Team, collaborating on the development of a bespoke tool using Node.js, Express.JS, React, and mermaid.js. Their dedication to learning a new language and collaborating effectively with software engineers was pivotal in delivering a valuable solution for managing and visualizing test environments from logs.

 Returning to a pivotal project focused on Digital Improvements, Vincent Dirks displayed remarkable prowess in handling aging front-end applications and an IBM Integration framework nearing sunset. They adeptly utilized the existing Digital Integration Suite, enhancing it using POJO, TestNG, and RestAssured. Their efforts were integral in facilitating migration and integration testing for the new code base.

Throughout our collaboration, Vincent Dirks consistently challenged assumptions in our Application Engineering and Design, elevating the team's performance, observability and fostering an environment of continuous improvement. Their commitment to excellence and ability to push boundaries would undoubtedly make them an invaluable asset in any psychologically safe work environment.

I wholeheartedly recommend Vincent Dirks for their dedication, technical proficiency, and unwavering commitment to driving quality through a lens of innovation and efficiency.

I would hire Vincent Dirks again.

Kindregards,

Stephen Stewart

Area Lead – Quality Engineering – Digital – Westpac (former)

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