

### **3) Team work experience**

I have been a team player and natural leader my entire life. Sometimes, I take it for granted that I can plan ahead, assemble a team, and execute a plan. It can be organizing a group of hikers to climb a mountain trek in a foreign country, or producing a photography exhibition with my friends. Even when I play sports, I enjoy soccer, volleyball, and basketball because they are about teamwork.

My work as an XXX hardware design engineer requires strong quantitative and analytical skills, logical problem-solving ability, and an approach that is both creative and methodological. True achievement, however, is contingent upon the formation of synergy between designers. Equipped with an appreciation of the importance of teamwork, extensive military leadership experience, and natural people skills, I was involved, from my first days at XXX (company), in the hiring process, in the mentoring of new employees, and in coaching. My teamwork was esteemed and I helped build a strong team.

Ahead of many more experienced engineers, I was selected to participate in XXX's Leadership Development Workshop, used to identify potential XXX leaders. I excelled at the workshop, a fact that later paved my way to group management, and subsequently succeeded as a team leader. Case in point, at one time I managed to lead my team through a crisis to a breakthrough solution. I was managing a project of 10 engineers designing an encryption engine for a microprocessor. Unfortunately, an underlying assumption collapsed, and we were left with little time to define a new solution, present it to the customer, and create and implement a recovery. Still, I was confident in our ability to prevail, and managed to boost team morale, which was low in view of the slim chances of success, by reframing our goal and presenting the team a new challenge -- the rare chance to create a breakthrough. At the same time, I elucidated the centrality of each team member's role one-on-one. We found a lead to the solution in an Internet article, and I managed to secure XXX (company) approval. My team delivered on time, satisfied the customer, and emerged stronger and more motivated to meet the next challenge.

I was later promoted to management, and as such was assigned to participate in XXX's \_\_\_\_\_course: X months of e-learning and a week-long workshop with an international team of XXX (company) newly appointed managers, focused on group leadership. Lectures, case studies, and group work within a diverse team of fellow managers further honed my leadership skills and knowledge.

In my XXX (MBA school) study groups, I will leverage my extensive project management experience to create an effective team, and infuse it with the benefit of my technological background. Furthermore, I will utilize my innate communication skills and sensitivity, as well as my vast international experience, to promote an atmosphere of cross-pollination and group integration. Finally, my spirit of helping others will be contagious and propel high morale. I look forward to bettering my study groups with my input.