

MICHAEL MONAK

Project Manager | Specialist in Health & Safety, IT Operations, and Environmental Science | Driving Innovation in Complex Environments

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Los Angeles



EXPERIENCE

IT Operations Technology Site Manager

Burning Man Project

07/2023 - 11/2024 Gerlach, NV

- Delivered under-budget IT infrastructure projects, reducing costs by piloting innovative cost-saving strategies ahead of schedule.
- Successfully led a high-altitude installation project, extending wireless coverage to remote desert sites and delivering near ~2 Gbps bandwidth to critical locations.
- Designed and implemented resilient IT solutions in extreme conditions, supporting a 75,000-person event with minimal downtime.

Account Executive

HALF BAK'D Hemp

01/2024 - 07/2024 Costa Mesa, CA

- Built a \$75,000/month book of business from scratch through targeted sales strategies and relationship-building with 100+ clients.
- Enhanced operational efficiency by streamlining workflows in collaboration with logistics and technology teams, resulting in improved client retention.
- Ranked in the top 5% of performers, exceeding sales quotas and driving company growth.

Operations Manager

Max Benjamin Partners

09/2021 - 10/2023 Beverly Hills, CA

- Facilitated the launch of the company's first fund, raising ~\$15 million for three major projects in commercial real estate.
- Managed budgets and optimized financial workflows using QuickBooks.
- Expanded the team from 7 to 15 members by recruiting and mentoring interns, fostering a high-performing work environment.

Network Deployment Specialist

Do LaB, Inc - Lighting In a Bottle Festival

05/2018 - 06/2023 Bradley, CA

- Designed and deployed complex network infrastructure, ensuring uninterrupted connectivity for festivals hosting 30,000+ attendees.
- Facilitated vendor negotiations and integrated new technologies.
- Led cross-functional teams to execute projects under tight deadlines, meeting all milestones while exceeding performance expectations.

COVID-19 Safety & Compliance Program Manager

A-Tech Consulting

02/2021 - 09/2021 Orange, CA

- Supervised 17 productions and 45 employees, developing safety plans that resulted in some of the fewest COVID-related shutdowns of any major studio.
- Enhanced team communication and oversight by implementing Airtable & MS Teams.
- Revamped onboarding processes and training materials.

Health & Safety Supervisor

CBS Productions

08/2020 - 02/2021 Burbank, CA

- Created and enforced safety protocols adopted by multiple departments, enabling production continuity with one of the lowest transmission rates in the industry.
- Conducted daily briefings for a crew of 200+, maintaining team morale and operational efficiency under strict health guidelines.

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science & Resource Management

California State University Channel Islands

05/2017 - 05/2019 Camarillo, CA

SUMMARY

Dynamic and results-oriented Project Manager with a proven track record of delivering complex, high-impact projects in the technology, media, and entertainment industries. **Certified Project Management Professional (PMP)** with expertise in leading cross-functional teams, optimizing processes, and driving innovation. Passionate about leveraging emerging technologies to create transformative solutions that align with business goals.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS



Innovative Project Execution

Spearheaded the rollout of a streamlined file-sharing and communication system during a high-stakes hotel acquisition, enabling seamless documentation transfer to a new lender under a compressed timeline and ensuring project continuity without delays.



Technology Integration for Operational Efficiency

Designed and deployed a resilient internet infrastructure at Burning Man, enhancing remote-site connectivity for 7,500+ staff and volunteers, reducing downtime by 30%, and enabling real-time data-driven decision-making.



Leadership - High-Compliance Environments

Successfully led a team of 45 professionals across 17 productions to implement advanced safety and compliance protocols, achieving a ~25% improvement in regulatory adherence while minimizing workplace incidents and ensuring seamless operational flow.

CERTIFICATION

Project management professional (PMP)

Nov 2024 #3978927

FAA Part 107 Remote Pilot Certification

(Drone Operator), Sept 2019

Associate Safety Professional (ASP) - In Progress

SKILLS

Project Management, PMP Certified, Construction Oversight, Safety Compliance, Budgeting and Scheduling, Workflow and Process Optimization, Vendor and Contractor Coordination, Building Code and Regulatory Knowledge, Proficient in Procore, Microsoft Project, Smartsheet

PASSIONS



Exploring the intersection of technology and creative innovation to enhance user experiences and project outcomes.



Pursuing outdoor activities such as surfing and backpacking, fostering a resilient mindset and appreciation for dynamic environments.