

My Piece of XING



Name: Dagmar Muth

Position: Product Manager

What's the name of your Piece of XING? I work in the Product and Engineering team as a Product Manager.

Who's in your team? All eight Product Managers provide a lot of creative brain power, all directed at inventing new and innovative features for our platform. Matthias, our screen designer, then needs to translate our wicked ideas into the XING design. And, last but not least, when it comes to big and complex projects, our three brilliant Project Managers take care of all the organisational and process related work.

What do you produce and how do you measure your achievements? We produce, gather and organize tons of new ideas for XING that allow you to create your experience on XING. The task of product management is to develop specifications that our engineers translate into code and web pages you can then see and use. We are also responsible for the smooth and bug-free launch of our weekly release. We try to understand how you are using XING, do usability tests and listen to the feedback that reaches us through various channels in order to increase your degree of satisfaction. Our aim is to ensure that we remain the technological leader in business social networks.

Who do you support and how do you know you're keeping them happy? Product Management is the channel for every single change that appears on the platform. That is why we work together with almost every department of XING. We support the whole company by managing the different interests and finding the best solution for our members. Good communication is definitely the most important thing when it comes to managing the requirements of many different parties. We live our corporate principle of 'Open communications' and we hope that our colleagues enjoy working with us.

What are you most proud of in your „Piece of XING“? We are often asked the question 'What is the cooperation like between product and engineering?' and surprisingly for the person in front of me, I say 'It is great!' This is actually the reason why we can't be beaten in terms of the number of new features we release every month.

What is the best thing you have done so far in 2007? Definitely backpacking in Vietnam last year!! Besides this, the launch of the new version of the XING Marketplace. I led the implementation of the completely new user interface due to the introduction of a payment system. The challenge was to keep a new business model simple and intuitive for our members - what do you think? Did we score?

The first thing I do in the office each morning is ... First of all I check in our issue tracking tool if something urgent needs to be done for my baby, Marketplace.

My favourite place in the office is ... During our weekly product meeting, I always sit on the radiator. Coming back from having lunch outside in windy and cold Hamburg a warm back is just what I need.

The special feature of my team that I particularly appreciate is ... We are a crowd of gourmets. Every other week there is a delicious home-made cake, freshly squeezed orange juice or an international speciality in our kitchen - Delicious!