Michael Sestak

Enterprise Marketing Leader | Building Campaigns that Convert & Teams that Win

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Senior Director of Marketing

GTM Leader | SaaS & AI Growth Strategist | Campaigns that Convert, Teams that Win | IBM Veteran

SUMMARY

Enterprise Marketing Leader with 15+ years of experience launching category-defining products, scaling SaaS and Al growth, and leading GTM strategy across billion-dollar portfolios. Former IBM GTM Director trusted to drive \$20M+ in cloud services pipeline through bold storytelling, creative firepower, and executional discipline. I bring the agility of an individual contributor and the strategic vision of a director, rallying teams, aligning stakeholders, and turning complex technology into compelling narratives that accelerate revenue. Known for high EQ, sharp instincts, and a bias for action. Built to launch. Wired for growth. Trusted to deliver.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Drove \$20M+ in pipeline growth by creating product demos and GTM messaging that accelerated enterprise sales cycles.
- Launched a Seismic Al hub powered by Watsonx LLM, deployed company-wide, reducing seller search time by 70%.
- Grew SaaS adoption 30% through personalized messaging, precision targeting, and full-funnel alignment.
- Coached high-performing teams, rolling out scalable tools that elevated win rates by 25% across global sales.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE | KEY WINS

Fractional Marketing Leader | Principal Consultant Avenue 34 – Kansas City, MO

Dec 2024 - Present

- Partnered with B2B brands and nonprofits to sharpen market positioning, scale digital content strategy, and grow audience engagement across web, video, podcast, and learning platforms.
- Developed high-impact content systems that improved brand visibility and audience retention across owned channels.

Senior Product Marketing Manager | GTM & Customer Success Leader IBM – Remote

informed campaigns across paid social, email, podcast, and content.

Jan 2023 – Nov 2024

Led full-funnel GTM strategy for IBM's \$1B AI services portfolio. Growing adoption, retention, and revenue through data-

- Led end-to-end GTM for Watsonx AI feature launches, from positioning and messaging to sales enablement.
- Elevated confidence and consistency in sales pitches across global teams, leading to 3x greater adoption of core enablement resources.
- Produced award-winning messaging and executive-facing videos, shaping narratives that resonated with customers and elevated product visibility, working shoulder-to-shoulder with Product, Creative, & Sales to deliver a unified GTM.

Senior Marketing Strategist | Global Sales Enablement Lead

Feb 2020 – Dec 2022

IBM - Leawood, KS

Led global enablement and content strategy across IBM Cloud, AI, and Security portfolios, delivering persona-aligned tools, sales assets, and training to enterprise sellers worldwide.

- Created high-impact messaging, content, client presentations, product demos, and training programs that drove adoption and up to 30% growth in cross-sell opportunities.
- Launched a simplified Services Offering Framework, aligning GTM strategy for the top 15% of 300+ offerings across 4 portfolios: automation, security, sustainability, and AI.

Director of Marketing, Data and AI | National Campaigns

Dec 2015 - Feb 2020

IBM - Leawood, KS

Directed brand messaging and demand generation for IBM's enterprise AI and data portfolio, driving scalable growth and building a "marketing mentorship" structure to accelerate skills development and in-house creative work.

- Continuously optimized GTM campaigns using data-driven A/B testing, increasing lead quality, and lowering CAC.
- Directed a team of 10 product marketers in executing omnichannel campaigns for IBM's AI and Data business—achieving 30% YoY growth and saving \$2M in agency costs through in-house creative leadership.
- Launched integrated campaigns across podcasts, email drips, paid search, and social, accelerating leads by 40%.
- Directed a team producing win stories, customer videos, case studies, and technical presentations to support global marketing campaigns, partnering with customer marketing to highlight solution impact.

Director, Marketing & Strategic Projects

Sep 2011 – May 2015

ScriptPro – Mission, KS

- Led project strategy, launching \$3.4M in healthcare technology across remote & highly regulated environments.
- Delivered rollout plans, marketing assets, & compliance content, accelerating project execution & implementation.

Director, Marketing & Operations

Sep 2007 - Sep 2011

Angelus Press - Kansas City, MO

• Drove full-scale transformation of marketing and operations, doubling revenue growth by introducing a digital strategy, streamlining workflows, and upskilling a high-performing team of 15 to accelerate project execution.

EXECUTIVE RECOGNITION

IBM Global Impact Award, IBM Entrepreneur Award, IBM 8x Winner for leadership, sales enablement, & creative impact.

TECHNICAL & CREATIVE COMPETENCIES

Marketing Strategy & GTM

Product Positioning • Messaging • Launches • Sales Enablement • Customer Segmentation • GTM Planning

Campaign Execution & Growth

ABM • Email • Paid Media • Podcasts • Content Strategy • Funnel Optimization • Customer Success • PLG & SLG Models

Creative & Storytelling

Video • Motion Design • Brand Voice • Al Tools • Executive Communications • Event Marketing • Multimedia Production

TOOLS

Google Analytics \cdot Salesforce \cdot Seismic \cdot Tableau \cdot HubSpot \cdot Marketo \cdot MS Office Suite \cdot Adobe Creative Suite \cdot Final Cut Pro \cdot Canva \cdot Jasper \cdot ChatGPT \cdot Figma \cdot HTML/CSS \cdot JIRA \cdot Slack \cdot Trello

CERTIFICATIONS

Adobe Marketing Specialist, HubSpot Content Marketing, IBM AI Essentials, Google Data Analytics, Google Cybersecurity

EDUCATION

MBA, Business Administration

Western Governors University – Kansas City, MO - Expected August 2025

BBA, Human Resource Management

University of Arkansas Grantham – Kansas City, MO - 2018