Hiran Venugopalan

Design, Product & Technology

Bengaluru, India · +91 94963 46709 · hiran.v@gmail.com · linkedin.com/in/hfactor · hiran.in

Product design leader working across design, product and technology. 16 years of experience building design teams, shaping products and working with engineering and business teams to solve complex problems. My work spans product definition, design leadership, interaction design, design systems and product strategy.

Experience

DGM, Product Design Tata Communications — October 2023 – Present

Leading Product Design across an enterprise communications portfolio spanning workflow automation, reporting, data visualisation, provisioning and integrations. Partnering with Product and Engineering to define roadmaps, shape product direction and translate complex technical capabilities, high-volume data and operational requirements into coherent product experiences across global markets. The work ranges from defining new product capabilities to designing complex interaction models and turning manual, operationally intensive processes into usable products.

Director, Design Kaleyra — April 2020 – October 2023

Joined as one of the first internal product hires during Kaleyra's transition from a service-led communications business to a product-led organisation. Built the Product Design team and helped establish the design foundations for a growing product portfolio. As the company expanded through acquisitions and across geographies, worked across product definition, information architecture, interaction design and design systems to establish a shared product experience while accommodating regional, regulatory and operational requirements.

Director, Design Quintype — February 2016 – March 2020

Built the Product Design team as Quintype grew from a publishing product into a broader digital publishing platform. Transformed a largely manual customer onboarding process into a self-service visual website builder, reducing onboarding time and enabling customers to get started independently. Led design across the expanding product suite, establishing the information architecture, interaction patterns and design systems needed to support its growth.

Lead UX & Visual Designer Bang the Table — January 2015 – January 2016

Designed civic engagement software including a complex public budget suggestion tool and a flexible theming system that enabled civic bodies to customise their digital experiences.

Co-founder, Design + Technology saltmangotree — December 2010 – December 2014

Co-founded and helped grow a digital and social media agency to nearly 90 people, leading design, branding and technology across the business.

Communities & Contributions

Participated in Google Summer of Code under Swathanthra Malayalam Computing (SMC) in 2007 and created Dyuthi (2008), Malayalam's first decorative Unicode font. Co-founded Kerala Designers Collaborative (2018–2023), a volunteer-led community of 3,000+ designers across Kerala, built around shared learning. Contributor to SMC since 2007, one of the earliest language computing communities, building standards, tools and infrastructure for Malayalam. Founded UXFOSS (2025–present), bringing product design into FOSS by working with maintainers to improve projects through design. Mentoring designers through ADPList since 2020.

Areas of Focus

Product Design · Design Leadership · Product Direction · Product Strategy · Building Design Teams · Cross-functional Leadership · Enterprise Product · Design Systems · Team Management · Open Source & Community

Detailed work is shared privately: hiran.in/work