Chris Christner

Executive Manager • Technical Writer • Graphic Designer

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Career Summary

Twenty-plus years of experience as Director of Marketing Communications, preceded by two years of experience as a Project Team Leader, and 15 years as a technical writer/graphic designer.

As Director of Marketing Communications, I was responsible for all corporate communications, including technical publications, news releases, website layout and content, advertising, logo design, and trade show collateral and graphics.

Portfolio—Samples of my work are available at christner.co/#portfolio.

Recognition

Received regional and international awards from The Society for Technical Communication (STC) competitions in categories of technical art, manual design, technical publication, and package design.

For more details, visit christner.co/#awards.

Experience

Patton Electronics Company   *Gaithersburg, Maryland • July 1999–April 2022*
Director of the Marketing Communications department with a staff that for several years consisted of two graphic artists, two technical writers, and interns.

As a result of my wide experience in technical fields and graphic arts, besides managing, I also did creative work, such as trade show graphics, postcards for mass mailings, magazine advertisements—and completely redesigning the 30-year-old Patton website layout for responsive design so it could accommodate tablets and mobile devices. I wrote nearly all of Patton's technical manuals (manuals and quick start guides that are compliant to IEEE-ISO 82079-1:2019 and ANSI Z535.1-2017), solutions guides, product overviews, data sheets, and the Patton Product Line Catalog.

The Patton website is at www.patton.com. Sample manuals, data sheets, and brochures can be viewed at patton.com/resources/.

TopTechWriter.US   *Frederick, Maryland • May 1992–March 2009*
As principal of TopTechWriter.US, I completed a variety of freelance projects for clients that included:

- A home security system installation and operation guide, a video surveillance system installation and operation guide, a home theater system installation guide, and a CarMax installation guide for Patapsco Designs of Frederick, Maryland

- A point-of-sale system operation manual for TWIX International of Denver, Colorado

- Data sheets, newsletters and other collateral for Patton Electronics Co. and IT Enclosures of Gaithersburg, Maryland

Experience (cont.)

- Brochures for Young Life of Frederick, Maryland and the Montgomery County Public Libraries

- Newsletters for the Friends of the Library of Montgomery County, Maryland

Hughes Network Systems, Inc.   *Germantown, Maryland • May 1989–July 1999*

Worked as a team leader on projects where I was the primary point of contact between project personnel and the other technical writers assigned to write the documentation. I supervised the development of large sets (more than 20 volumes) of user documentation for global satellite/cellular communications systems. Responsibilities included using Microsoft Excel and Microsoft Project to develop and update project plans, Gantt timelines, and cost-to-complete budget estimates.

As a Principal Technical Writer, I wrote and illustrated technical manuals, proposals, and marketing literature. The technical manuals included installation, operation, and maintenance manuals for DirecTV systems, DirecPC and Direc-Duo hybrid Internet satellite systems, MobileSat global satellite/cellular systems, satellite earth stations, digital-cellular phone systems, and air-to-ground phone networks. Several of the manuals I created received awards at STC's International and Washington DC Technical Publications/Art Competitions.

Note: Additional employment history is available at christner.co/#experience.

Skills

Indeed Skills Assessments

Skill	Expert	Highly Proficient	Proficient
Attention to detail	●		
Mechanical knowledge	●		
Proofreading	●		
Written communication	●		
Graphic design		●	
Sales skills		●	
Verbal communication		●	
Customer focus & orientation			●
Social media			●
Typing			●

LinkedIn Skills Assessments and Endorsements

Skill	Assessment Result	Endorsement
Microsoft Word	Awarded a badge for standing in the **top 30%** of 7.5 million people who took the test	●
Adobe Illustrator	Haven't taken the test	●
Adobe Photoshop	Awarded a badge for standing in the **top 15%** of 2.6 million people who took the test	●
Graphic design	No assessment test available	●
Technical writing	No assessment test available	●
Team leadership	No assessment test available	●
Communication	No assessment test available	●

For more details, visit christner.co/#skills.