

Product Owner, API Platform

JD-0049

Key Responsibilities

- Own and prioritize the API platform and self-service developer portal product backlog, ensuring alignment with business and integration needs.
- Define API surface area including resources, endpoints, payloads, and error models, as well as policies for versioning, pagination, and idempotency.
- Translate customer and partner integration patterns (including EDI flows) into reusable, platform-grade API capabilities for rail and intermodal logistics.
- Partner with API architects and senior engineers to design integration surfaces, security models, and performance characteristics that scale.
- Establish and maintain standards for API documentation (OpenAPI/Swagger), developer portal UX, and self-service onboarding workflows.
- Define and manage API lifecycle policies including deprecation, sunset, versioning, and backward compatibility.
- Collaborate with customer engineering, sales engineering, and implementation teams to support enterprise customers in adopting APIs and accelerating time-to-integration.
- Define and track key product metrics (usage, latency, error rates, adoption, monetization) to drive continuous improvement of the API platform.

Required Skills

- Proven product ownership experience (8–12 years) in enterprise B2B SaaS, with a strong focus on APIs, integration platforms, or developer platforms.
- Deep understanding of REST API design patterns including resource modeling, versioning strategies, pagination, and idempotency.
- Strong knowledge of API security and access control: OAuth 2.0, API keys, scoped tokens, and rate limiting.
- Expertise in integration patterns and eventing mechanisms, including webhook vs. polling tradeoffs and reliability considerations.
- Hands-on experience with API documentation standards and tooling: OpenAPI/Swagger, developer portal patterns, and developer experience best practices.
- EDI proficiency, particularly with logistics-related messages such as 204, 214, 990, and 997 in rail and intermodal contexts.
- Demonstrated ability in backlog management for platform products, including roadmap creation, prioritization, and stakeholder alignment.
- Strong written communication skills, with the ability to produce precise user stories, acceptance criteria, and specifications that engineering can implement without additional translation.
- Experience defining and supporting API monetization models such as usage-based, tiered, and freemium-to-paid.
- Comfort working with highly technical stakeholders (developers, integration architects, customer engineering and implementation teams).

Good to Have Skills

- Experience with API management platforms (e.g., Apigee, Kong, MuleSoft, AWS API Gateway, Azure API Management).
- Familiarity with event-driven architectures, message queues, and streaming platforms (e.g., Kafka, RabbitMQ).
- Exposure to DevOps and CI/CD practices related to API deployment, testing, and observability.
- Understanding of security best practices beyond auth (e.g., OWASP API Security Top 10, encryption in transit and at rest).
- Experience with analytics and product instrumentation to measure API adoption, usage, and performance.
- Background in transportation, logistics, or supply chain domains, especially rail and intermodal.
- Knowledge of UX principles for developer-facing products and tools.
- Experience working in Agile/Scrum environments, including collaboration with Scrum Masters and Release Train Engineers.

Experience Required

8 to 12 years of experience in product ownership or product management, primarily in enterprise B2B SaaS with significant API or developer platform responsibility.