

» CASE STUDY

# Finding Hidden Workers

by Olly Benzecry  
Chairman of WithYouWithMe, UK



**David Attwood** is a former RAF Air Specialist, who's now found employment through WithYouWithMe as a PEGA Junior Developer at Accenture.

Latest government data shows almost a fifth of UK companies have a digital skills vacancy. With the need to find innovative solutions to this digital crisis becoming more urgent, I am continuing to cast a light on those organisations and individuals who have the courage to try a new approach.

Today I'm particularly pleased to share a story from Accenture UK and Ireland where I had the privilege of serving as Chairman and Managing Director for many years.

Accenture has always been progressive in its approach to finding hidden talent – last year they partnered with Harvard Business School's Project "Managing the Future of Work" to find out more about what is keeping these workers hidden.

Their survey showed how enhancing hiring processes can stop hidden talent being screened out of job opportunities.

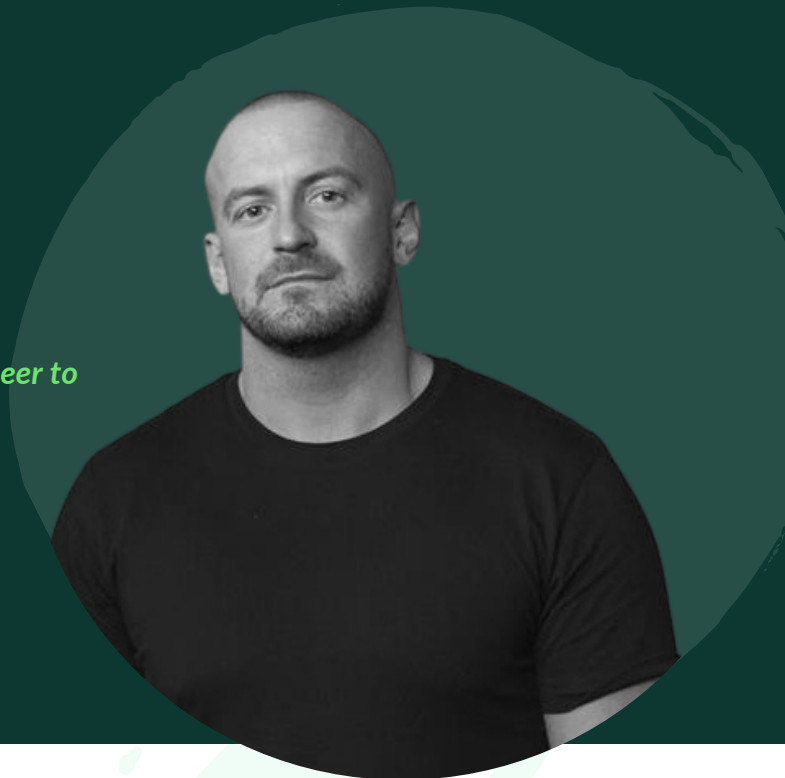
This aligns well with how they came to be one of the early supporters of the WithYouWithMe initiative in the UK.

**Here is the story of an individual who has been given the opportunity to realise his potential at Accenture, after transitioning out of the British Army.**

MEET...

# ALEX ELEY

*From Army Communications Engineer to  
Pega Business Architect  
with Accenture*



Alex is a British Army veteran who began his military career as a Junior Communications Engineer and won the Brigade Commanders Commendation for Exemplary Operational Service from the UK Ministry of Defence in 2010. From there, he held various positions such as Communications Systems Operator and Electronic Countermeasure Specialist. In 2016, Alex shifted to a full-time position as an Information Technology Project Engineer with the Ministry of Defence, where he remained until his 2017 discharge.

After leaving the UK Ministry of Defence, Alex struggled to find a role with meaning. Though he had a decorated career in the military, his skills were not being perceived as transferable by the broader market. He initially worked in the Steel industry, then as a Personal Trainer, as well as an Uber Eats and Just Eat delivery driver to make ends meet.

Eventually, he was introduced to WithYouWithMe where he could undertake free courses for high-demand careers and receive industry-recognised certifications.

Alex has ADHD, so flexible course delivery enabled him to work at his own speed and concentrate on learning the IT Skills that he was most passionate about. He received certifications in Project Management and Pega – and quickly landed a role as a Pega Business Architect at Accenture.

Keen to soak up as much information as possible, Alex is continuing to upskill on the WithYouWithMe platform and is focused on gaining valuable consulting experience from his placement at Accenture.




ABOUT  
THE AUTHOR



**Olly Benzecry is the Chair (UK)  
of WithYouWithMe.**

He previously served as Chairman and Managing Director of Accenture UK and Ireland. Olly is a member of the Digital Economy Council of the United Kingdom, Chairman of Movement to Work and is on the corporate development boards of Cancer Research UK and the National History Museum of London.



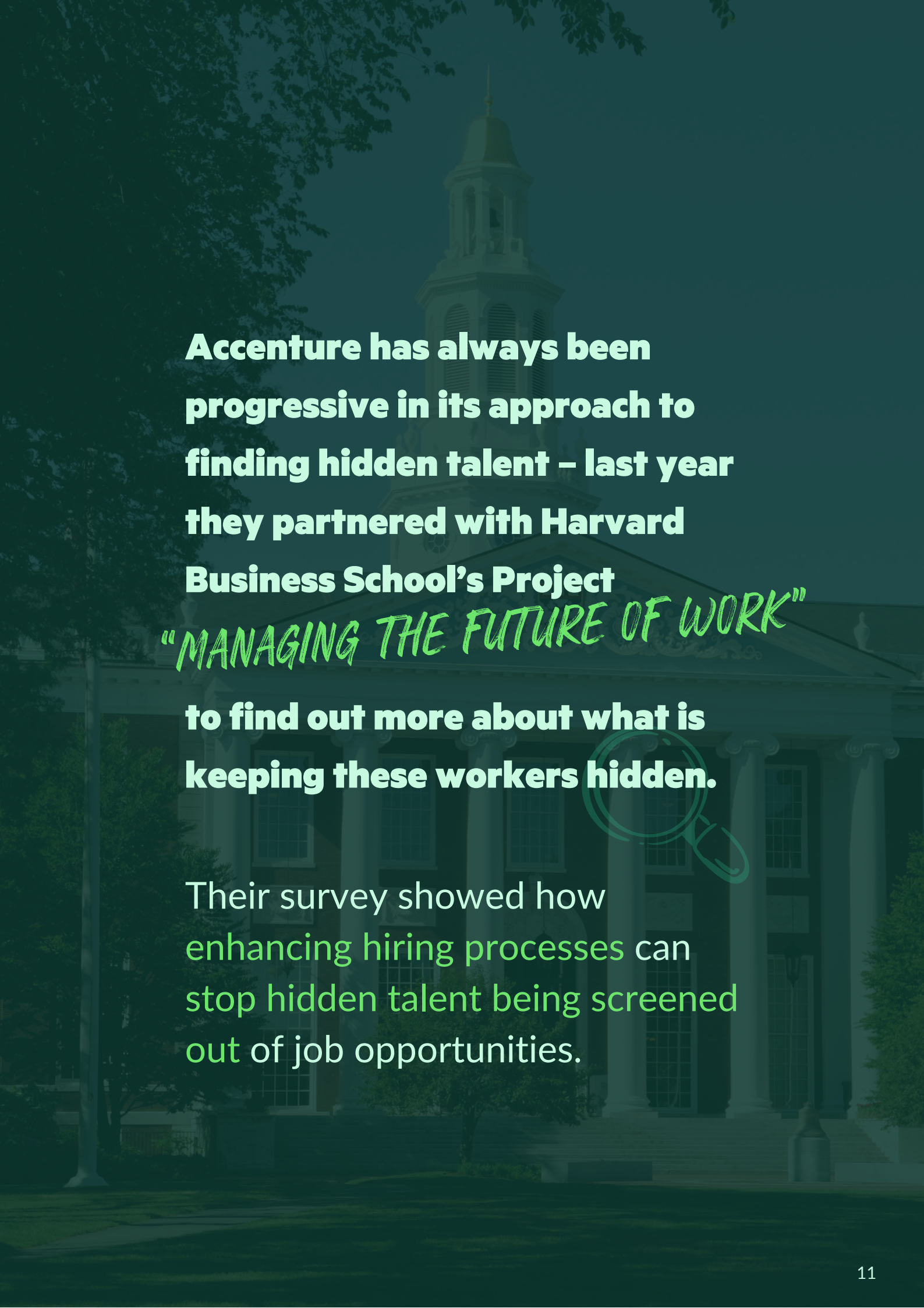
**Alex is an example of why prioritising potential over experience can be so rewarding for employers looking to diversify their workforces and fill their chronic digital skills shortages.**

If you would like to learn more about the individuals who have found new careers through WithYouWithMe – including David Attwood a former Royal Air Force (RAF) Air Specialist, who has recently accepted a new role as a PEGA Junior Developer at Accenture – head to:

[www.15000futures.co.uk](http://www.15000futures.co.uk)







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