# Persona 1:

# SaaS Founder / CEO

# SaaS Founder / CEO

#### **Pain Points**

- Balancing growth targets with cash runway and burn rate
- · Urgency to make key hires but limited time to recruit
- · Cost of a hiring mistake in a key leadership role

#### **Values**

- Domain expertiise in SaaS and scaling startups
- Trusted search partner who can operate quickly
- Quality candidates aligned to their vision
- True understanding of the challenges of SaaS growth

#### Hook

- "Meet hiring targets without moving focus from ARR."
- "We know what SaaS growth-stage founders need."
- "Expert search for future SaaS leaders"
- "Founders partner with founders—less education, faster results."

Target Persona Framework: Charles Slater Exec Recruitment

# Persona Snapshot

Name: "Alex Turner" (example Founder/CEO persona)
Company Stage: Early-stage SaaS (Seed → Series B)

**Location:** London / Manchester / Birmingham

Focus: Scaling recurring revenue, product-market fit, first leadership hires

- Struggles to hire fast enough to hit investor growth targets.
- Frustrated by **generic recruiters** who don't understand SaaS metrics (ARR, MRR, churn, PLG).
- Concerned about mis-hiring senior leaders one bad VP hire costs months of runway.
- Needs to balance speed vs cultural fit as the team scales.

- A specialist SaaS recruiter who "speaks their language."
- Access to a vetted network of proven SaaS leaders.
- Fast, transparent process with minimal founder time required.
- Cultural and growth-stage alignment early-stage grit, not corporate CVs.

# **Messaging Hooks**

- "Hire leaders who understand SaaS growth metrics."
- "From ARR to churn we get the numbers that matter."
- "Reduce time-to-hire and build the right leadership team faster."
- "Trusted SaaS talent partner for founders who need to scale."

- Blog: "How SaaS Founders Can Avoid Costly Leadership Mis-hires."
- Carousel: "5 Metrics Every SaaS VP Sales Should Own."
- Case Study: "From Founder-led Sales to CRO: Building a Scalable SaaS Team."
- LinkedIn Post: "Why Generic Recruiters Struggle with SaaS Scale-ups."

# Persona 2:

# CRO / VP Sales (SaaS Scale-Up)

# CRO / VP Sales — SaaS Scale-Up

#### **Pain Points**

- Building and retaining a high-performing sales team
- Pressure from the Board to build future pipeline
- · Overcoming competitor dominance in market

#### **Values**

- SaaS growth expertise and Leadership Search
- Transparent, honest and efficient process
- · Access to warm, venture-backed talent

#### Hook

- "Grow revenue with the right talent, in the right roles."
- "Find top Sales leaders while you focus on the funnet."
- "Put top-performers in that key Sales leadership role. EDGE

Target Persona Framework: Charles Slater Exec Recruitment

# Persona Snapshot

Name: Sarah Williams

Role: Chief Revenue Officer / VP Sales

**Company Stage:** Series B → Series D SaaS Scale-Up

Focus: Building predictable ARR growth through sales excellence, process rigour

and RevOps alignment.

- Shortage of SaaS-native sales talent who understand complex subscription models and PLG.
- Constant pressure to reduce churn and hit growth targets with limited headcount.
- High turnover in sales teams and difficulty finding A-players who fit scale-up culture.
- Generic recruiters send irrelevant candidates without SaaS quotas or metrics experience.

- Recruiters who speak the same language pipeline, ARR, churn, sales velocity.
- Access to vetted, SaaS-experienced sales leaders and AEs.
- Speed and accuracy shortlists with real fit, not CV volume.
- Confidentiality when hiring replacement leaders or building stealth teams.

# **Messaging Hooks**

- "Build sales teams that drive predictable ARR growth."
- "SaaS revenue leaders for scale-ups ready to accelerate."
- "Because you can't afford another bad hire in sales."
- "From SDRs to CROs SaaS talent that sells."

- Blog: "How to Build a Predictable SaaS Sales Engine."
- Carousel: "Top 5 Traits of High-Performing SaaS Sales Leaders."
- Case Study: "From Flat Pipeline to 3× ARR Growth SaaS Team Rebuild."
- LinkedIn Post: "Why Hiring SaaS Sales Leaders Requires a Specialist Recruiter."

# Persona 3:

# HR Director / Talent Lead - SaaS Scale-Up

# HR Director/Talent Lead — SaaS Scale-Up

#### **Pain Points**

- High volume of vacancies
- · Finding leadership is often difficult and slow
- Overcoming recruiters lack startup talent

#### **Values**

- Demonstrated SaAS hiring track record
- Extensive leadership search experience
- Access to proven experts for startup roles

#### Hook

- "Quickly fill your key leadership positions."
- "Solve your talent challenges with startup expertise."



Targel Persona Framework: Charles Slater Exec Recruitment

# **Persona Snapshot**

Name: Rebecca Hall

Role: HR Director / Head of Talent Acquisition

Company Stage: SaaS scale-up (50 – 300 employees)

Focus: Hiring pace vs quality, building recruitment infrastructure without bloated

agency fees.

- Overstretched internal talent team handling multiple specialist roles.
- Difficulty sourcing SaaS-specific candidates most agencies don't "get" the market.
- Balancing speed, cost, and quality when scaling teams fast.
- Pressure from founders to deliver senior hires without compromising fit or budget.
- Struggling with recruitment partners who don't represent the brand well.

- A recruitment partner who acts like an extension of their team.
- **Deep SaaS domain expertise** and understanding of functional roles (sales, CS, product).
- Transparent process and clear candidate communication.
- Ability to **scale with them** executive search to operational hires.

# **Messaging Hooks**

- "Your specialist SaaS recruitment partner as agile as your team."
- "Faster hires. Better fit. Zero wasted time."
- "Because hiring for SaaS scale-ups isn't one-size-fits-all."
- "Sector expertise meets in-house partnership."

- Blog: "How to Build a Scalable SaaS Hiring Framework."
- Carousel: "Why Most Agencies Fail SaaS HR Teams."
- Case Study: "Scaling a SaaS Sales Team in 90 Days with Specialist Support."
- LinkedIn Post: "The Hidden Cost of Generic Recruiters for SaaS Scale-Ups."

# Persona 4: Investor / PE Talent Partner — SaaS Portfolio Focus

# Investor / PE Talent Partner — SaaS Portfolio

#### **Pain Points**

- Pipeline for port-folio C-level roles
- CEOs & Founders lack Sales & Finance network
- Pressure to scale GTM capability

#### **Values**

- Experience hiring Sales, Finance, CxO
- Expertise in startup environments

#### Hook

- "Solve leadership gaps across your SaaS portfolio,"
- "Drive growth with placements at scale."
- "We deliver Sales & Finance talent Founders trust."



Targel Persona Framework: Charles Slater Exec Recruitment

# **Persona Snapshot**

Name: James Carter

**Role:** Talent Partner / Operating Partner (People & Growth)

**Company Type:** Venture Capital or Private Equity firm with SaaS portfolio **Focus:** De-risking investments through leadership quality, hiring speed, and

scalability.

- Leadership pipeline gaps across multiple SaaS portfolio companies.
- Founders delaying growth due to missing CRO / CMO / VP-level talent.
- Urgency to hire without sacrificing quality or confidentiality.
- Limited bandwidth to oversee multiple searches simultaneously.
- Need to trust a partner with **discretion and board-level communication**.

- A trusted search partner with proven SaaS domain insight.
- **Speed and precision** delivering executive candidates who fit stage and strategy.
- **Market intelligence** salary benchmarks, talent trends, SaaS metrics understanding.
- Confidential handling of replacements or sensitive leadership changes.

# **Messaging Hooks**

- "Trusted partner for SaaS leadership search and portfolio scaling."
- "From Founder-led to Board-ready leadership that drives value."
- "Accelerate portfolio performance with the right SaaS leaders."
- "De-risk your investment through specialist talent intelligence."

- Blog: "The Role of Talent Partners in Accelerating SaaS Portfolio Growth."
- Carousel: "5 Signs It's Time to Upgrade Your SaaS Leadership Team."
- Case Study: "How a PE Partner Built Leadership Pipelines Across 3 SaaS Brands."
- LinkedIn Post: "Why Investors Choose Specialist Recruiters for SaaS Scale-Ups."

# Persona 5:

# SaaS Professional (Candidate / Mid-Senior Level)

# SaaS Professional — Mid to Senior Candidate

#### **Pain Points**

- Overlooked amongst large pipelines
- · Limited proactivity from recruiters
- · Lack of interview feedback

#### **Values**

- Personalised outreach
- Market expertise
- Proactive approach

#### Hook

 "We'll find your next GTM role in a high-growth SaaS company."



Targel Persona Framework: Charles Slater Exec Recrultment

# Persona Snapshot

Name: Emma Lewis

Role: Senior Account Executive / Customer Success Manager / Head of Product

Marketing

Stage: Mid-senior career within SaaS scale-ups

Focus: Career progression, culture fit and alignment with high-growth teams.

- Recruiters who don't understand SaaS terminology or metrics (ARR, MRR, churn).
- Applying to roles at companies that aren't true SaaS (legacy tech disguised as software).
- Lack of visibility into culture, growth trajectory and career path.
- Poor communication during the hiring process radio silence after interviews.

- A recruitment partner who **understands SaaS careers** and represents them accurately.
- Access to real SaaS scale-ups with transparent growth stories.
- Clear feedback and honest career advice.
- Representation that feels personal and confidential.

# **Messaging Hooks**

- "Work with people who understand SaaS and your career goals."
- "Join high-growth SaaS teams where your skills matter."
- "Specialist guidance for the next step in your SaaS journey."
- "Transparent opportunities. Genuine SaaS roles. Career clarity."

- Blog: "What SaaS Companies Look for in Top Sales and Customer Success Talent."
- Carousel: "The Top 10 SaaS Career Roles Growing in 2025."
- Case Study: "How We Matched a CS Leader to a £10 M ARR Scale-Up."
- LinkedIn Post: "Why SaaS Professionals Deserve Specialist Recruiters."