








Stephen McGregor

Technical writer

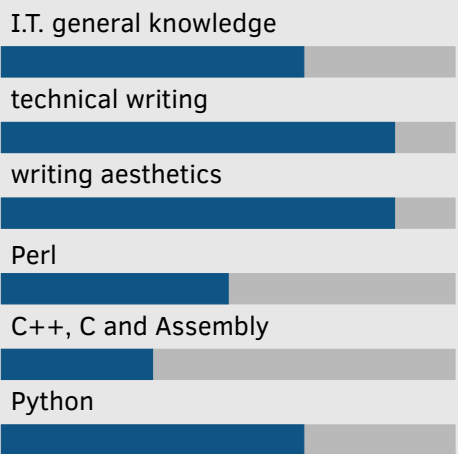
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About me

Friendly, clever, educated. Stephen collects information, history books, music and GNU/Linux documentation while trying to watch only the best cinema. Most days he'll mess with his Debian GNU/Linux setup or program ... something. Stephen has sung in many many choirs and, since starting to listen to audiobooks, [reads](#) (that is listens to) six or so each month. Lived in Istanbul for nearly a decade, more than a year at a crown research institute (GeoNet, GNS Science), and now looking for another technical writing contract.

Will relocate.

Skills



Interests

Complicated systems, taking notes, bringing order to chaos, opportunities.

Experience

Apr'18 - Jul'19	Technical Writer @ GeoNet, GNS Science	Seismic Monitoring
	Produced technical documentation:	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">SOPs for GeoNet's 24/7 National Geohazards Monitoring Centre. Interviewed experts company-wide.User and support guides for a huge NZ-wide sensor network. Analysed & structured technical data.Instructions and checklists covering GeoNet's NZ-wide WAN. Many SME interviewes.CSS-formatted PDFs. Extracted run books from an Atlassian Confluence wiki. Added clarity & consistency.Procedures and draft RACI requirements charts for a Nationally Significant Database. Met Public Records Act (2005) criteria.	
	Coded Python scripts to:	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Convert markdown documents into CSS-formatted PDFs.Run appropriate conversion programs upon directory changes.Extract a wiki (->HTML->markdown->correct markdown)->PDF.	
	An Agile environment. Significant organisational change.	
2010-2018	Rewriting & editing @ multiple clients and nationalities	editing
	Rewrote many thousands of technical documents. Negotiated with clients, met their deadlines, complied with their style guides.	
	<u>Governmental</u> : Presidential documents (130,000 words), govt' press releases, translated regulations.	
	<u>Legal</u> : Telco's legal statements, legal opinions, drug trial docs (many), industrial sales contracts.	
	<u>Telecommunications</u> : technical manuals, technical sales materials, nationwide tracking system documentation, technology overviews.	
	<u>IT systems</u> : tender specifications (RFPs), industrial manuals, operating instructions (many), technical publicity materials.	
2013	Technical Writer @ Contact Energy	SAP migration
	Wrote parts of the specifications for a major SAP migration.	
2008	Technical Writer @ Country Energy (Australia)	systems migration
	Documented a set of major upgrades and virtualizations.	
2007-08	Technical Writer @ Alcatel-Lucent	telco
	In a team, documented Alcatel-Lucent communications hardware.	
2006-07	Technical Writer @ EDS/Telecom NZ (now Spark)	telco
	WebSphere, Genesys IVR system, VoiceXML voice-recognition.	
2005-06	Embedded Developer @ MAS Zengrange	embedded & telco
	Assembly & C development for ICs and GPS chips. Full SDLC.	
2002-03	Technical Writer @ Link Communications (Australia)	telco
	Wrote 600-page Operators' Guide for continent-wide telco system.	
2001	Technical Writer @ National Bank NZ	bond trading
	Trading systems' process instructions, user manuals, diagrams.	
1998-2000	B.A. and C++ Developer @ Quality Systems Ltd.	C++, ERP
	Designed & coded an ERP module. Elicited full SDLC analyses.	

Samples

My brochure is [here](#) and my creative CV [here](#). These and more on [github](#).

A System Manual I wrote is [here](#), and an API, Dev Guide is [here](#). A sample System Guide can viewed [here](#) and an IVR / voice recognition as-built I wrote is [here](#). Many examples of my editing and Proofreading can be downloaded from [here](#). A few of my infoviz Visios can be seen [here](#) and an art-piece in UML (yes) is [here](#).



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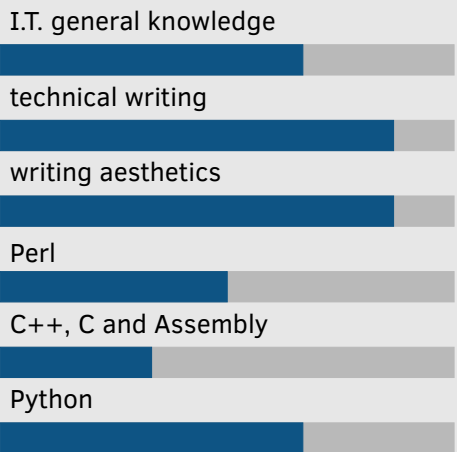
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Skills



Education

2005	post-grad electronic physics electronic physics, geomagnetism, filters, DSP, fibre optics	Victoria University
2004	post-grad diploma advanced international marketing, tourism, third-world marketing	Otago University
2003	graduate diploma electronic design and systems, microcontrollers, physics	Otago University
1993	B.Sc (Chemistry) chemical engineering, organic chemistry, bio-tech, pharmacology	Otago University
1990	B.Com (Marketing) market research / international marketing	Otago University

Skills

Tech writing	Since 2001, mostly manuals for telecommunications & IT. Also APIs, as-builts and banking. A collector & reader of style guides.
Editing	Proofread and edited thousands of commercial, technical, IT, legal and miscellaneous documents. Broad range of clients.
Telecoms	Professionally developed a telecoms device. Documented many different telecoms systems. Studied fibre optics at post-grad level.
Embedded	Former embedded developer. Used dsPic, Atmel & FPGAs. Grad Dip(Electronics) and studied post-grad.
Coding	Perl 5, C, Python, C++, assembly. Formerly SAS, SPSS. Coding since 1983 and still coding most days. My Github is here .
Applications	Microsoft Office, Inkscape, Visio, Gimp (like Photoshop). Vim. Trados Studio, Wordfast. Have used MadCap Flare, Adobe InDesign.
Platforms	Unix since 1989, Debian GNU/Linux since 2001, Microsoft since MS-DOS. My first computer was a ZX-81.
Database	MySQL, sqlite3, some Oracle. Intermediate-level SQL but very familiar with databases. Many database-orientated roles.
Commercial	Telecoms, heavy industry, finance, defence, utilities, software. Started own small business. Two business degrees.
Modelling	Modelled a \$35m capacity purchase, a \$10m economic project and for a \$20m legal case. Capacity reporting for Telecom NZ.
Sys Admin	Networking, wireless, iptables, security & encryption, udev and /sys, /proc, kernel stuff, sound and video formats, backups, logs.
Statistical	Was a statistical analyst; studied statistics to uni second-year.
Analytical	National Network Analyst, BA. An analytical, technical disposition.

Professional Memberships

TechCommNZ	Technical Communicators Association of New Zealand Inc Member of NZ's Association for professional technical writers
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References

Dr Tatiana Goded	
Seismic Hazard Modeller	
GNS Science	
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Dr Jerome Salichon	
Seismologist - Earthquake analysis systems specialist	
GeoNet; GNS Science	
J.Salichon@gns.cri.nz	+04 570 4855