# Week 1 (23/Jan/15)

Blog <https://amulligant00122209.wordpress.com/>

This week I began week one of work placement with Continuum Commerce Solution situated in the Kerry Technology Park as part of the second semester of my third year of my Software Development course with IT Tralee.

My first day began with an induction period where I was introduced to the members of staff and given a brief overview of the different sections of the company such as IT support, Development and management. The work placement plan was outlined which included an individual project for the first 6 weeks, a group project was also proposed but as I am the only work placement student I am yet to find out what the second six weeks will entail . Just before the tea break all members of the staff meet for a stand up meeting, here members of all department describe what they have achieved yesterday and hope to achieve today. Each member of staff only talks for a few seconds.

On the second day, developers David Murphy, Thomas O Connell and Marta Doberschuetz gave me a choice of new technologies to research and ultimately pick a project to develop from these or any others I might like to use. I spent all morning and afternoon researching F#, RabbitMQ and MongoDB among other technologies. After lunch I was assigned to spend the remainder of the day shadowing David O’Shea working on “Reporting”. He showed me the magnitude of the work involved on a large scale database. He was very insightful and gave me an excellent overview of how the system worked.

Day three started with liaising with David, Thomas and Marta about the technology I was going to choose and give a brief description of the application I was going to implement.

Day four started again with liaising with David, Thomas and Marta to establish if I had a better concept of what I was trying to achieve in terms of my individual project. I showed a better understanding of F# and outlined my desire to move away from OO concepts and try functional programming concepts. I also completed my first F# program to talk to a MongoDB database.

Day Five consisted of security training, this consisted of myself and new H Dip student Noreen being give a power point presentation and watching a video on security and social engineering. This consisted of strict rules we would have to adhere to.

At half 10 I had to give my presentation of the project I was going to implement, this took place in a meeting room. About 8 software developer attended the presentation. I described the concepts of my project. All seemed happy with my choices of technologies and ideas I purposed. But the senior developers want me to look into technologies which the company may benefit from. So I decide to substitute after a discussion to swap RabbitMQ for ZeroMQ and MongoDB for Redis. This didn’t change the overall architecture of my project. Just added a little more research. I will add a clearer overview of what the project will entail after final sign off of use of the two new technologies(ZeroMq and Redis) on Monday.

I have noticed a strong emphasis on the staff improving their knowledge on existing and new technologies. Software developers take part in group learning activities like Book Club meeting where a chapter of a programming book is read and then discussed each week, dev training consists of each member of the software development department giving a presentation on a technology they are currently using outside of work. This is certainly a company moving in the right direction. I enjoyed my first week at CCS and look forward to the second week.