

LEON ESSAM

Software Developer, Business Student Graduate

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EXPERIENCE

Software Developer

Tenderlake

September 2023 – August 2025 London, England, United Kingdom

- After completing my bachelor's degree, I joined Tenderlake as a software developer specializing in Microsoft technologies (C# and SQL). My initial projects involved extracting procurement notices from data sources in multiple countries, including Ireland, the UK, Spain, and the US. Each source presented unique challenges, including handling various file formats, extracting contents from ZIP archives, and scraping dynamic websites with an automated browser instance, among others. I gained experience with libraries such as Puppeteer-Sharp, Json.NET, and Html Agility Pack.
- In many of my projects at Tenderlake, I utilized WinForms and SQL Server to process data extracted from a variety of sources. I also wrote and optimized SQL stored procedures for end-to-end data management. This work improved data quality, sharpened my SQL skills, and increased system responsiveness and scalability. I also reviewed databases for anomalies, which strengthened my data analysis skills in SQL and Python.
- I integrated OpenAI's GPT models into our Microsoft stack using the OpenAI-API-dotnet library. This allowed our software to effectively utilize OpenAI for tasks such as data summarization and analysis with high-volume data processing. Another library in my arsenal was the SharpToken library, which helped monitor the token count for each interaction with OpenAI, ensuring that we maintained cost-effective use of AI capabilities.

Software Engineer Associate

Infor

October 2017 – July 2019 Farnborough, England, United Kingdom

- I joined the Infor SunSystems R&D Department on a 2-year apprenticeship as a software developer. My first year was spent developing small applications to professional standards. A large part of this was improving and extending my analytical skills to undertake business and systems analysis. I acquired an in-depth knowledge of programming languages (Microsoft C#), database technologies (Microsoft SQL Server) on a variety of server and client operating systems. I also planned, designed, and conducted the testing of my applications and wrote end-user documentation.
- During this year I improved and extended my 'soft-skills', including communication with R&D Staff using a variety of media (email, Skype, WebEx and Microsoft Teams), time management, working as part of a team. I also gained an appreciation of the importance of project planning using Microsoft Project.
- In Year 2, I was seconded to the Microsoft Development Team to assist with the development of the Department's core enterprise application, SunSystems. Infor SunSystems is an integrated financial management, purchasing, sales, and inventory management application and has over 9,000 customers in 190+ countries.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Departmental Presentation

I presented a completed team project to the Department with an accompanying demonstration. This was well-received.

Student Representative

Elected by other students to represent the class in meetings designed to enhance student life at the college.

Ownership

Independently designed, developed, and maintained production-grade applications in a lean startup environment, demonstrating end-to-end ownership and resilience.

Adapting To Remote Working

I was quick to adapt to my new role as Software Engineer in a remote-first setting and maintain high productivity and motivation.

STRENGTHS

Ability to work under pressure

At various times I was asked to work on fixing production issues to tight deadlines. These fixes were then promoted into production.

Quick to learn new ideas and skills

Infor was at the cutting edge of new technologies, so much of my time was spent researching ways in which they could be applied to solve problems. An example, I had to quickly implement a complex Angular UI control using the API. I had to quickly understand how the API worked and then design and build a working solution.

Analytical skills

Tasks typically involved analyzing requirements and, from them, designing and building software components into a finished solution. I found this a very interesting part of the job.

Problem solving

A key part of my work involved advanced problem solving in which I was expected to analyse a problem, generate a variety of potential solutions and choose the most appropriate - then implement and test it.

EDUCATION

B.Sc. in Business and Management Studies

University of Sussex

 Sept 2019 - July 2023

Grade : Higher Second (2.1)

BTEC Extended Diploma Level 3 in IT (Software Development)

East Surrey College

 Sept 2015 - June 2017

Grade : DMM

GCSE (Grade 5-1) Mathematics


Reading College

 Sept 2018 - June 2019

Grade 4


GCSE (A*-C) English, Mathematics, ICT & Religious Studies

The Warwick School

 Sept 2011 - June 2015

Level 2 Extended Cert Performing Arts (Acting)

The Warwick School

 Sept 2011 - June 2013

REFEREES

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