Pandemic and Training Period

Summary of events

Please find a summary of the events during the pandemic, the effects upon my role, company and wider industry and subsequent training period:

1. AVMI my previous employer deployed systems within the corporate sector which were areas completely shut down for a number of years throughout the course of the pandemic.

2. By mid-2020 AVMI, which was one of the largest companies in Europe, was on the verge of collapse and I suspect was sold by its private equity owners, at which point I was made redundant.

3. Crestron and AMX are relatively niche and entirely dependent upon the corporate sector being fully open such that there were no available roles at all throughout the course of the pandemic, however thankfully I received a substantial redundancy package and had significant savings.

4. At the time there was great uncertainty about the future of the industry and whether the industry would return, if at all.

5. By late 2021 when we were once again going back into lockdown with little prospect of the pandemic ending it was decided to commence a substantial training period within core Java and associated technologies due to:

    - Ubiquity: Overall prevalence and close connection with the real-world economy of companies and people physically buying, selling, making, providing and consuming goods and services, an aspect of life whose underlying technologies will always be in demand.

    - Architecture: Crestron and AMX share many concepts and structural complexities with many modern enterprise and e-commerce architectures, these include:

        Service-Based: Crestron and AMX are primarily built upon a service-based architecture with internal communication via component API.

        Event Driven: Crestron and AMX software is highly system centric, event driven and multithreaded requiring extensive coordination, propagation and handling of asynchronous events between components triggered by the UI or other external sources.

- Product: Crestron/AMX are highly product-orientated where the needs and ergonomics of how a non-technical user will naturally interact with the system underlie core design decisions.

6. I subsequently completed a comprehensive range of canonical training, research, courses, books, exercises, technical questions and substantial projects within core Java to an advanced level in conjunction with many associated technologies and practices including:

Java/JavaFX	Spring	Kubernetes/Docker	CI/CD	DevOps
Android/Kotlin	SQL	Maven/Gradle	TDD/BDD	Agile/Scrum

7. This training period resulted in a substantial body of work which can be reviewed in the following repository:

   https://github.com/Paul-Surridge/Sample-Works

8. My proficiencies are as follows however please find 'Software Proficienies.pdf' in the repository above for a full breakdown of my proficiencies within core Java and the overall works completed during this period.

Crestron, AMX	Advanced
Java, JavaFX	Advanced
Spring, SQL, Android, Kotlin, XML	Intermediate
Kubernetes, Docker, Maven, Gradle, CI/CD, DevOps, TDD, Git, Agile, Scrum	Basic

9. The repository contains:

Research:	Sample of my collated research built up through all of my training within Java and associated technologies.
Screenshots:	Sample of screenshots of Java/JavaFX applications and Crestron/AMX applications deployed while at AVMI.
Projects:	Sample source code of x3 substantial Java/JavaFX projects completed during this training period, these include a Bank Account Manager app which is an advanced dashboard-based chart analysis of personal banking history which I hope will provide a suitable demonstration as to my proficiency within core Java and my ability to design, architect and develop whole solutions.
Software Principles.pdf:	Summary of my general principles applied to all software of any size or scope.
Software Proficiencies.pdf:	Summary of my current proficiencies and works completed during this training period.