Dr Andrew Bell
Senior IT Consultant
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ABOUT ANDREW

I am a senior consultant covering design, integration, development and implementation of applications.

Specialist with 7 years' experience of working in consultancy from project inception (including requirements workshops and meetings with client) to design, development and delivery. I am currently providing technical leadership to deliver a digital service supporting government departments geospatial needs using agile methodologies. I pride myself on my client-facing skills having the ability to discuss options with both technical and non-technical personnel.

As a senior consultant I have experience in delivering numerous agile projects involving; web development, requirements gathering, data analysis, user acceptance testing, data visualisation/transformation, infrastructure design and DevOps. I place an emphasis on client engagement managing stakeholders with clear communications forming strong client relationships.

Functional expertise

- 7 years consultancy experience
- Provided a key development and consultancy role in the delivery of a number of work streams for large functional projects.
- GIS expertise for development and technical consultancy for advanced GIS solutions.
- Ability to work with limited guidance performing daily tasks without supervision - currently the only Sopra Steria employee managing a DAERA team encompassing multiple GIS solutions.
- Experience of DAERA client technical GIS consultancy on GSAA, Veterinary Services, LPIS Editor and Farm Investment Planner applications from project inception to delivery.
- Design, development and implementation of new GIS technologies including GIS software design and development.
- GIS consultant with knowledge of the latest GIS developments and future strategy
- Expert in GIS consultancy for procuring and understanding client requirements, definitions and have a detailed understanding of system processes and architecture.
- Creating custom development of map widgets and workflows based on the requirements of GIS customers and stakeholders.
- Management and engagement : client-facing skills with a broad understanding of database technologies, technical system architectures and a proven ability to discuss options with both technical and non-technical personnel.
- Contributed to the definition of scope and deliverables for DAERA GIS applications.
- Expertise in High-Level and Low-level design of GIS Systems.
- Broad technical knowledge of multiple GIS applications
- Good communication skills – ability to adapt language to form relationships with technical and non-technical customers.
- Experience of working in consultancy, development and business analysis for GIS software applications.

- Client engagement and management throughout product lifecycle: from defining requirements and developing applications to supporting UAT and releasing applications to live environments.
- Promoted Sopra Steria GIS consulting solutions in LPIS review, LPIS Discovery and DAERA management workshops.
- Expert knowledge of latest DAERA and Sopra Steria applications, development and future strategy for GIS.
- Emphasis on client engagement including shaping of overall solutions with key internal and external stakeholders.

Technical expertise

- Educational qualification including PhD, MSc and BSc.
- Functional GIS expertise utilising Full ESRI software suite including ESRI Javascript API for developing HTML5 and Silverlight viewer applications.
- Open source GIS expertise of including : Open Layers, GeoServer , GRASS GIS, R Spatial, QGIS, and LASTools.
- Esri web app builder, ArcPortal and ArcGIS Online: developing map services, apps and external facing GIS applications.
- Application of Latitude Geographics Geocortex Suite of Software including : Geocortex workflow designer (VB.NET) and Geocortex Essentials Manager for managing and modifying sites (.xml/.xaml), Geocortex report designer and Geocortex Analytics.
- Technical expertise in data management of spatial data including FME Desktop and Server.
- Mobile Solutions including developing applications utilising Android .apk extensions for GIS Viewers.
- Knowledge of SQL Server (Oracle Spatial) including creating stored procedures, views and interactions to database from GIS Server.
- Technical Expertise of programming languages including : Python, ArcObjects (.NET), VB.NET, R Statistical Language, SPSS, .xml, .xaml, HTML5, Javascript and C#.
- Ability to work under pressure whilst still achieving demanding targets.
- Creation and maintenance of ArcGIS Server and ArcGIS Online map/feature/image services.
- Administrative experience utilising MS Visio, MS Word, MS Excel, MS PowerPoint, MS TFS and HP ALM Quality Center.
- Extensive experience of Use Case diagrams and Class Diagrams.
- Supporting clients in all aspects of their requirements as a single consultant.
- Discovery Excercises
- POC development

Summary of Project Experience (Sopra Steria)

July 2016 to Present – Department of Agriculture Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) – Senior Consultant for Veterinary Services team within DSD (Digital Services Division)

- Development of internal and external GIS viewer applications for DAERA.
- Lead GIS consultant with a sound knowledge of the latest GIS developments to advise and shape overall solutions for DSD.

- Specialist in GIS application development from project inception (including requirements workshops and meetings with client) to design, development and delivery.
- Clarifying requirements with product owners and clients prior to development.
- Contributed to shaping of overall solution with key internal and external stakeholders
- Designing, creating, testing and implementation of GIS software and solutions with focus on delivery to the client.
- Development of GIS viewers, workflows and custom activities.
- Technical environment: HTML5, Geocortex, Javascript, VB.NET, ESRI ArcServer/ArcMap/ArcCatalog, C#, Oracle Spatial, .xml, .xaml and FME.

July 2015 to Present – Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD) – GIS Consultant for DARD Corporate GIS : Geospatial Aid Application (GSAA)

- Development of External GIS viewer applications for DARD.
- AGILE development model - Development activities relating to tasks derived from User Stories.
- Clarifying requirements with Business Analysts and clients prior to development.
- Development of viewers, workflows and custom activities.
- Extensive knowledge of the latest developments and future strategy of GIS for DEARA including infrastructure, solutions and applications.
- Technical Environment: HTML5, Geocortex, Javascript, VB.NET, ESRI ArcServer/ArcMap/ArcCatalog, C#, Oracle Spatial, .xml, .xaml and FME.

August 2015 - DEFRA – Data Consultant for Legacy LMS

- GIS consultant to DEFRA for developing FME workbenches for RLR to LMS : Extract, Transform and Load (ETL).
- Developing workbenches into three main work streams : 1. Loading data in from legacy dataset, 2. Transforming data to communicate and be sampled within new application, 3. Output of data load into new and relict applications.
- Technical environment:FME, Geoserver, OpenLayers, Javascript.

June 2014 to Present – Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD) – GIS Consultant for DARD Corporate GIS : LPIS Editor and eMap

- Development of Internal and External GIS viewer applications for DARD.
- Working as link between client and development team utilising established technical expertise.
- Development of client viewer applications with advanced editing capabilities.
- Development of public facing external map viewer applications.
- Worked closely with the Project Manager in running workshops to establish high level goals to digitise a government field mapping service.
- Both short term and long term goals were established for further creation into smaller projects to ensure effectiveness of application.
- Liaising with client to write test scripts for UAT.
- Technical environment: HTML5, Silverlight, Javascript, VB.NET, ArcObjects, C#.Net environment.

Summary of Previous Employment

December 2012 to March 2013 – Association of Directors of Environment, Economy, Planning & Transport (ADEPT) / Roads Service – Principle Project Analyst

Development of online viewers for Roads Service based on Flexviewer.

AGI Award winner for developing models within viewer called Integrated Slope Assessment Toolbox (ISAT). Project called 'Integrated spatial approach using GIS for Slope Risk Assessment – The Roads Service Model'.

September 2010 to June 2014 – Queens University Belfast – PhD Student

Fully funded PhD in GIS.

PhD title 'Spatial analysis approaches for the characterisation and monitoring of slope instability and deformation'.

International consultancy in PhD developing web applications for Canadian Rail Research Laboratory

May 2008 to September 2010 – RSK – Environmental Consultant

Employed directly from my MSc course as a consultant for RSK Ireland, ltd. As a consultant I carried out many duties including client and sub-contractor liaison and managing large environmental projects.

Education

2016 – Sopra Steria Fast Track Academy

2015 – BCS certificate for BCS Foundation Certificate in AGILE

2014 – PhD in Spatial Analysis and GIS

2013 – Association of Geographic Information (AGI) student of the year

2008 – MSc in Landscape, Heritage and Environmental Science (GIS)

2007 – BSc in Geography (2:1)