

## BENJAMIN FOLKS

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## AEROSPACE-SOFTWARE ENGINEER

Multi-faceted engineer with experience working on project teams in numerous fast-paced environments. Aims to combine Aerospace Engineering Degree, software development experience gained in professional environments, and real-world aviation experience as an **FAA Certified Instrument-Rated Pilot**.

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## TECHNICAL SKILLS

**Back-end:** Python, Django/DRF, VB.NET, VBA

**Front-end:** HTML, CSS, JavaScript (ES5, ES6), Ember.js, jQuery

**Other:** SolidWorks 3D CAD, Esprit CAD/CAM, Selenium, S3, Git, GitHub

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## WORK EXPERIENCE

**RedShelf • Chicago, IL • January 2018 – Present**

*Web development company providing digital content for educational institutions*

### Full-Stack Software Engineer

- Work within an Agile software development team to address product-driven enhancements and JIRA tickets, while simultaneously building out new business-driven applications using SCRUM methodology
  - Optimize Python tasks to be run daily that integrate the internal database with external API's
  - Construct unit, integration, and acceptance (Selenium) tests to deliver testable and maintainable code
  - Build back-end REST API to handle CRUD methods, as well as other custom operations, utilized by an entirely new, internal front-end Ember.js application
  - Design API endpoints allowing external users access to corresponding read only or read/write eCommerce operations, based on varying levels of Authentication
  - Create email service integrating internal database models with live SendGrid web updates
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**AdThrill • Chicago, IL • December 2017 – Present, (Part-Time)**

*Start-up website for users to watch and rate advertisements ([adthrill-prod.herokuapp.com](http://adthrill-prod.herokuapp.com))*

### Lead Software Engineer

- Construct back-end Python/Django model definitions to maintain and analyze all relevant user data
  - Integrate with PayPal API to support live user payouts and details inquiries
  - Deployed the first live production version of the site using Heroku, with continuous increments
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**DP Technology – ESPRIT • Rosemont, IL • July 2012 – December 2017**

*Developer and supplier of computer-aided manufacturing (CAM) software for CNC machine tools*

### Senior Manufacturing/Software Engineer

- Create technical designs and generate manufacturing processes for concurrent OEM projects
  - Build SolidWorks CAD assemblies of dynamic machine models utilized for digital part verification
  - Determine processes and tooling necessary for manufacturing aerospace and automotive turn-key parts, in order to produce time studies and fully functional milling/turning programs
  - Plan and create VB.NET/VBA applications within the ESPRIT API to increase automation of tool selection and machining processes for a range of CNC mills, lathes, and multitasking machine tools
  - Travel onsite to aerospace and US government clients to oversee technical projects, including NASA Glenn, Woodward Inc, Northstar Aerospace, Tinker AFB
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## EDUCATION

**BS Aerospace Engineering • University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign • 2011**

**FAA Certified Private Pilot - Instrument Rating**

**Certified SolidWorks Mechanical Design Professional**

**Certified Professional Scrum Master I**