Benjamin Folks

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Aerospace-Software Engineer

Aerospace Engineer with seven years of Manufacturing, Design, and Software experience. Over 150 hours of flight time gained as an *FAA Certified Instrument-Rated Pilot.*

Professional Experience

Stealth Space Company (Astra Space) • Alameda, CA • September 2019 – Present
Aerospace manufacturer and launch service provider developing high performance orbital vehicles

Software Engineer
- Develop data-driven system for managing the assembly procedures of each launch vehicle
- Process and visualize Manufacturing ERP system data using PostgreSQL and Grafana/Domo

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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)

Technical Lead - Python Engineer
- Manage software architecture, implementation/testing of code, and deployments to production
- Compile/analyze all user-response data and allow businesses to view their corresponding results
- Create Python algorithms to optimize searches between businesses and target audiences

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RedShelf • Chicago, IL • January 2018 – September 2019
Content delivery system for providing digital materials to educational institutions

Full Stack Developer
- Work within an Agile engineering team using SCRUM methodology and continuous integration
- Create unit, integration, and acceptance (Selenium) tests in order to deliver maintainable code
- Setup new architectures to centralize business logic and maintain clear domain layers
- Build Django/DRF API endpoints allowing authenticated clients to access read/write operations
- Manage scheduled and on-demand asynchronous Python tasks using Celery

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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 Applications-Manufacturing Engineer
- Create technical designs and determine machining processes/tooling necessary for manufacturing aerospace turn-key parts on CNC mills, lathes, and multitasking machines
- Build CAD designs and assemblies of dynamic machine models using SolidWorks 3D CAD
- Develop VB.NET/VBA applications within the ESPRIT API to automate machining processes
- Traveled onsite to 35+ aerospace/US gov't clients to oversee technical projects and trainings

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Technical Skills (rated from 1-10)

Programming Languages, Frameworks, & Technologies:

Python	●●●●●●●●○	Django/DRF	●●●●●●●●○
HTML/CSS	●●●●●●●○○	JavaScript/Ember.js	●●●●●●●○○
PostgreSQL	●●●●●●●○○	VB.NET/VBA	●●●●●●○○○
Linux/Unix	●●●●●●○○○	C++	●●●●●○○○○

Design Tools (CAD):

ESPRIT CAD/CAM	●●●●●●●●○	SolidWorks 3D CAD	●●●●●●○○○

Education

BS Aerospace Engineering • University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign • 2011
FAA Certified Private Pilot - Instrument Rating