Christian Specht

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Technical Skills

Likes: c# .net sql-server git message-queue
Dislikes: reporting-services

Experience

2006 → Current **Developer and DBA** – weinor
c#, .net, sql-server, tsql, com-interop, msbuild, ms-access, vba, powershell, git, gitlab, mercurial, messaging, python-sphinx

Lead developer for the ERP system.

My daily job is mainly a mixture of the following, in that order:

- developing new features
- maintaining existing code *(change/extend existing features according to changing business rules)*
- fixing bugs
- user support

There are constantly new projects for different internal clients, requiring improvement of existing features or development of new features, often involving integration of 3rd party systems.
This includes gathering the exact requirements from the responsible business people and communicating with technical people from the 3rd party vendors.

On the side, I'm the main DBA, responsible for everything SQL Server *(for our own databases as well as those for 3rd party software)*:

- backups
- availability
- performance tuning
- troubleshooting

Some "bigger" things I did over the years:

- Introduced an application server written in C#, replacing internal logic of existing applications by app server calls *(some just .NET → .NET, and some with a lot of COM-Interop voodoo)*
- Introduced version control, CI, documentation, bug tracking *(evaluated/selected/installed/learned the tools, educated the rest of the team how to use them)*
- Migrated the databases of all production systems over multiple SQL Server versions, including more and more availability *(log shipping/database mirroring)*
- Integrated with a wide variety of 3rd party hardware *(label printers, digital scales, fabric/aluminium cutting machines, powder coating facilities)* and software *(our company site, iPhone apps, 3D software, fax servers, shipping providers, bookkeeping software)*

2004 → 2006 **Helpdesk / Developer / DBA** – weinor
ms-access, vba, tsql, sql-server

Became an involuntary DBA as well, in addition to being a part-time developer and helpdesk guy.

Sep 2001 → Jan 2004 **Apprentice (Informatikkaufmann)** – weinor
ms-access, vba, tsql

Began apprenticeship in the IT department - not as a developer, but doing user support.
The profession is called Informatikkaufmann.

Became a part-time developer in 2002, doing some grunt work for in-house software written by a contractor (while still doing user support as my main job).

Finished my apprenticeship in the beginning of 2004.

Projects & Interests

Sep 2008 → Current **Stack Overflow** – https://stackoverflow.com/users/6884/christian-specht
Written 713 answers. Active in jekyll, liquid, ms-access, sql-server, .net and 24 other tags.

Jun 2016 → Current **SCM Backup** – https://github.com/christianspecht/scm-backup
c#, .net-core, xunit.net, simple-injector, nlog, git, github-api, bitbucket-api, mercurial, github-pages, python-sphinx, gitlab-api

Makes offline backups of your cloud hosted source code repositories

Apr 2011 → Current **RoboShell Backup** – https://github.com/christianspecht/roboshell-backup
powershell, robocopy, truecrypt

RoboShell Backup is a simple personal backup tool. It uses Microsoft's RoboCopy to copy files, and it is written in Windows PowerShell.

Aug 2011 → Aug 2018 **Bitbucket Backup** – https://github.com/christianspecht/bitbucket-backup
c#, mercurial, git, msbuild, ninject, wix

Bitbucket Backup is a backup tool which backups all your Bitbucket repositories to your local machine.

Dec 2015 → Dec 2015 **christianspecht/google-calendar-backup** – https://github.com/christianspecht/google-calendar-backup
powershell

Make local backups of your Google Calendar (or any other calendar)

Feb 2013 → Nov 2015 **Tasko** – https://github.com/christianspecht/tasko
c#, asp.net-web-api, ravendb, nunit, android

Tasko is a simple to-do list app for your own server. (with Android client)

Sep 2013 → Sep 2014 **SimpleLeague** – https://github.com/christianspecht/simpleleague
php, pdo, mysql, mustache.php

SimpleLeague is a very minimalistic tool to display tabular league data (results, rankings etc.) in existing websites.

Jul 2012 → Apr 2014 **VBA Helpers** – https://github.com/christianspecht/vba-helpers
vba, ms-access, unit-testing

A collection of useful VBA functions.

Jun 2012 → Sep 2013 **MissileSharp** – https://github.com/christianspecht/missilesharp
c#, usb, nuget, nunit, wpf, mvvm, autofac, moq, mahapps.metro, clickonce

.NET library to control an USB Missile Launcher (plus WPF demo app)

Jul 2011 → Jun 2012 **Recordset.Net** – https://github.com/christianspecht/recordset.net
c#, adodb, nuget, xunit.net

Recordset.Net is a library to convert .NET POCOs to ADODB.Recordsets.

Public Artifacts

Aug 2020 **Creating an image gallery with Hugo and Lightbox2** – https://christianspecht.de/2020/08/10/creating-an-image-gallery-with-hugo-and-lightbox2/
hugo, lightbox2

Finding out how Hugo works, and building a website with an image gallery with it

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May 2020 **Building and deploying a Jekyll site via GitHub Actions** – https://christianspecht.de/2020/05/03/building-and-deploying-a-jekyll-site-via-github-actions/
jekyll, github-actions, ssh, continuous-integration

Setting up CI with GitHub Actions to build a Jekyll site and deploy it via SSH to shared webspace

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Aug 2019 **Creating custom OpenStreetMap tiles for my own tile server** – https://christianspecht.de/2019/08/29/creating-custom-openstreetmap-tiles-for-my-own-tile-server/
openstreetmap, openlayers, command-line, maperitive

Creating custom OpenStreetMap tiles with Maperitive, and creating a map with markers (and those tiles) for printing with OpenLayers

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Oct 2017 **Running a combined Jekyll/PHP site on XAMPP** – https://christianspecht.de/2017/10/04/running-a-combined-jekyll-php-site-on-xampp/
jekyll, php, xampp

Building a static Jekyll site with dynamic PHP parts, and running it locally under XAMPP

Apr 2015 **Generating sitemap.xml in Jekyll, without using plugins** – https://christianspecht.de/2015/04/16/generating-sitemap-xml-in-jekyll-without-using-plugins/
jekyll

Using Jekyll, a static site generator, to create sitemap.xml files for SEO.

Jun 2014 **Building a pseudo-dynamic tree menu with Jekyll** – http://christianspecht.de/2014/06/18/building-a-pseudo-dynamic-tree-menu-with-jekyll/
jekyll, liquid

Step-by-step tutorial how to build a dynamic-looking nested menu with Jekyll, a static website generator.

Dec 2013 **Publishing a web project with MSBuild (with multiple configurations)** – https://christianspecht.de/2013/12/16/publishing-a-web-project-with-msbuild-with-multiple-configurations/
msbuild

How to mimic Visual Studio's "Publish" feature with MSBuild to publish web projects.

Aug 2013 **Tinkerforge Weather Station, part 2 - Connecting to a Raspberry PI** – http://christianspecht.de/2013/08/15/tinkerforge-weather-station-part-2-connecting-to-a-raspberry-pi/
hardware, raspberry-pi

The second part of the Tinkerforge Weather Station series.

Jun 2013 **Tinkerforge Weather Station, part 1 - Intro and construction** – http://christianspecht.de/2013/06/17/tinkerforge-weather-station-part-1-intro-and-construction/
hardware

I wanted to do a project with hardware, so I bought a Tinkerforge Weather Station and a Raspberry PI. The end goal will be to measure temperature etc. in my garden and display it somewhere on my site.

This is the first part in a series of posts where I describe how I did this.

Mar 2012 **How to display Markdown files from other sites in WordPress** – https://christianspecht.de/2012/03/09/how-to-display-markdown-files-from-other-sites-in-wordpress/
php, wordpress, markdown

For each of my projects, I have created a WordPress page on my blog. Instead of just editing the pages in WordPress, I've decided to put the content in Markdown files, so I can commit them together with the actual source code. This blog post explains how to set WordPress up to display Markdown files from any external source.

Apps & Software

Apr 2017 **Sindorf trödelt** – https://sindorf-troedelt.de/
jekyll, php, google-maps, paypal, mustache, cron, bitbucket-pipelines

Website for an annual garage sale in my home town. Sellers can register and pay via PayPal, and a cronjob generates a list of adresses and a Google Map with clickable markers.

Mar 2012 **christianspecht.de** – https://christianspecht.de/
html, jekyll, twitter-bootstrap

My personal site/blog

Readings

Dependency Injection in .NET – Mark Seemann – http://www.amazon.com/Dependency-Injection-NET-Mark-Seemann/dp/1935182501%3FSubscriptionId%3DAKIAIIBINOD46VC3JCLQ%26tag%3Dstackoverfl08-20%26linkCode%3Dxm2%26camp%3D2025%26creative%3D165953%26creativeASIN%3D1935182501

C# in Depth, 3rd Edition – Jon Skeet – http://www.amazon.com/Depth-3rd-Edition-Jon-Skeet/dp/161729134X%3FSubscriptionId%3DAKIAIIBINOD46VC3JCLQ%26tag%3Dstackoverfl08-20%26linkCode%3Dxm2%26camp%3D2025%26creative%3D165953%26creativeASIN%3D161729134X

The Art of Unit Testing: with examples in C# – Roy Osherove – http://www.amazon.com/Art-Unit-Testing-examples/dp/1617290890

Masters of Doom: How Two Guys Created an Empire and Transformed Pop Culture – David Kushner – https://www.penguinrandomhouse.com/books/96382/masters-of-doom-by-david-kushner/9781588362896

Tools

First Computer: An Amiga 500. I sold my GameBoy to afford it, and I paid more to double the RAM to 1 MB.
Favorite Editor: Visual Studio