

Aaron Held

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Personal Profile

An ambitious, conscientious and highly motivated Computer Science student currently working in and seeking new opportunities within the IT industry which will allow me to progress and develop as a computist as well as utilise the knowledge and skills I have already ascertained in the subject. I hope to gain a lot of transferable skills from this work, as well as offer a range of skills and qualities which may be desirable for a company seeking a computing student eager to make a mark in the industry.

Education

- **Computer Science BSc, Northumbria University (Expected Outcome: 1st Class Hons) September 2015 - May 2019**
- **GCSEs:** 14 A*-C / **A-Levels:** 4 - A*AAB

Skills

- **Programming Languages/Frameworks Used:** C, Embedded C, C#, C++, Ladder Logic, Siemens TIA, Java, JavaScript, Perl, Python & Python Tkinter, .NET, Web API, Ruby, Swift, REST API's, SQL, MongoDB, Node Js, Visual Basic, PHP, TLA+, Pluscal, UPPAAL, CSS, HTML.
- **Applications Used:** GTS, SAP, ATTP, MES (PAS-X), Matlab, Microsoft Office, Visio & Project, uVision, FileZilla, PHPStorm, Git Hub, StarUML, also several IDEs such as Xcode, Webstorm, BlueJ, Eclipse, PyCharm, Visual Studio, and Netbeans.
- **Operating Systems Used:** Linux, Unix, Ubuntu, Windows (all since 98), Mac OSX.
- **Methodological Principles Familiar With:** Agile (iterative), Test drive development, MVC, SDLC.

Work Experience

- **Merck Sharp & Dohme - Automated Software Engineer (Embedded) (2018-Present):** Throughout my time at MSD I have worked extensively in the packaging sector of the tablet production process. Working with and engineering certain software packages in order to suit both the company and often vendors needs. I have worked closely with the serialisation project which meant the installation and integration of new pieces of software and hardware systems which operate concurrently to satisfy the new industry requirement of continuous serialised batches. I was responsible for the development of the human machine interface (HMI) display and it's automated integration with the PLC's which allows the machines to package and serialise the batches. This offered me invaluable exposure to the intensively reactive industry that is pharmaceuticals; having to react instantaneously to critical situations that could result in severe consequences from a maintenance point of view, and from a pre-installation regulatory point of view. Being required to develop as well as learn advanced, bespoke and largely new software packages on the spot really taught me how to perform under pressure. This role has given me an extensive knowledge of mechanical aspects of automated machines such as PLC's and how to program them; using languages such as Rockwell and the Siemens TIA; and has allowed me to understand exactly how these machines operate from a computerised perspective. I have been focused on the installation of several new packaging lines and implementation of new serialisation capable machines throughout my time in this role. As well as the installation I have been tasked with the maintenance of such packaging lines, and have gained a strong ability to troubleshoot general automated software problems. Another project I was responsible for at MSD was an overview process tracker. This extracted parameterised data from on-site systems and displayed the current status of all manufacturing systems on one screen for all Software Engineers and other related engineers to see. This allowed for significantly more efficient remote work and an invaluable amount of visibility and clarity of exactly what was happening at any given time; which previously had been neglected. I also got involved with the validation process of computing systems at MSD. Largely working with contractors in order to formalise and tighten up the validation process so it could comfortably and confidently comply to industry standard regulations. As I was involved with developing some of the most critical aspects of software within these projects, I was in a good position to help test and validate them. Reading and familiarising myself with documents such as GAMP, Annex 11 and Annex 15 have greatly developed my understand of a pharmaceutical grade compliant computer system.
- **Computer Systems Validation (CSV) - Validation Engineer (2017-2019)**
As part of the CSV team I worked as a validation engineer responsible for writing documents ahead of system installation as part of the GMP system validation process. This included drafting and finalising Standard Operating Procedures, writing IQ, OQ & PQ's for new and existing computer systems; as well as validating new automated systems pre-installation. This involved having a developed and thorough knowledge of related regulatory requirements, such as Annex 11, Annex 15, CFR Part 11 and an ability to interpret and exercise GAMP requirements when validating automated computer systems.

Work Experience

- **Merck Sharp & Dohme - Infrastructure Engineer (Internship) (2017-2018):**

My first job role at MSD was as a computing infrastructure engineer internship as a member of the GIO team. This was a year long placement which offered me an invaluable introduction to the professional workplace. I was largely involved in the production process and worked closely with automation engineers in order to test and implement new equipment. I began working on the serialisation packaging project which involved the testing, development, validation and installation of bespoke serialisation software and hardware packages which were to be deployed on the site. I was involved in the testing and overall decision of which systems should be used for serialisation at MSD; this included significant amounts of software engineering and testing in order to fit it to our current bespoke packaging systems. I was also closely involved in the development of the internal company network, installing several new data rooms and configuring network switches and other networking equipment to suit the current infrastructure. My involvement with the serialisation project allowed me to move directly onto the project in the following year as an Automated Software Engineer whilst completing my degree.

- **Northumbria University - Marketing CRM Digital Coordinator (2016-2017):** In this role I was able to utilise my skills and knowledge gained throughout my degree and put it into practice in a professional and commercial environment. From database maintenance to production of websites I have been able to provide technical computing skills to a marketing environment in order to help the CRM team. This gave me a tremendous insight and added enthusiasm for a professional career in the IT industry. I was responsible for the design of the university's SQL database, as well as several Visual Basic programmes which allowed for automated data entry and extraction from the Microsoft Dynamics CRM system. I was also responsible for implementing Microsoft Dynamics as a cloud based CRM system within the university.

- **The Cooperative Food - Customer Team Member (2016-2017)**

- **Tesco - Voluntary Worker (30 hrs) (2013)**

- **The Salvation Army Charity Shop - Voluntary Worker (30 hrs) (2013)**

Interests & Achievements

- Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award holder & NCS Award holder.
- Developing mobile applications and websites, myself and some friends are currently working on an iOS application, and I have designed websites for friends in the past.
- Programming with my Raspberry Pi, as well as building computers and learning about hardware components.
- Music, I'm an avid piano and guitar player, I also teach piano and guitar to some family friends' children on weekday evenings.
- Playing and watching various sports including golf, F1, tennis, running and generally keeping fit. I have ran in several half marathons and other races, I was also the junior captain at Prudhoe Golf Club from 2010-2013 and now mentor the junior players at weekends.