James Gough ("Peaceful Programming")

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SUMMARY

I am a contract software developer working under the business name "Peaceful Programming". I have a good working knowledge of various current technologies (see "technical keywords" for a concise summary). I have a genuine interest in writing and debugging robust multi-platform applications, as well as a proven ability to learn new technical skills and concepts. I am also very creative and have a knack for helping you sculpt your vision.

TECHNICAL KEY WORDS

I have divided the keywords into three "level of knowledge" categories.

Expert: C#, VB, VBA, Visual Studio, ReactJS, AngularJS, ASP.NET, WCF, MVC, EntityFramework, SQL Server, SVN, Git, JIRA, HTML5

Intermediate: C++, Go, Elixir/Phoenix, Python, Bash, CSS, Hugo, Postgres

Beginner: Ruby, PHP

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Jan 2017 - Present ***Peaceful Programming Limited***
Lone Guru

- **Key technologies: ReactJS, Elixir/Phoenix, Hugo (to be continued)**
- I work under the name "Peaceful Programming", selling computer development as a service. I have registered this as a sole trader business name and have also registered "Peaceful Programming Limited" as a PLC so that I might attract more business.
- My last client was Stack Shuttle. They contracted me to help with some of their front-end work, using ReactJs to build a portal for admins of a system they had almost finished. I got great experience with Elixir/Phoenix in this time and have been learning it since that contract finished. I think it is my new favourite language/framework.
- I am seeking contract work with progressive companies that place emphasis on good management, rational product evolution and remote working.

Aug 2016 - Jan 2017 ***Applied Systems (Wealthtrack)***
Software Engineer

- **Key technologies: C#, AngularJs, VB, SSIS**
- Rewrote key sections of the policy premium calculator web services which were written in C# (using a non-standard ChannelFactory pattern). This took about 1.5 months.
- Wrote SSIS package to map between two disparate DB schemas. This took about 1 month.
- The rest of my time was spent investigating and solving existing bugs. In this aspect of my role, I was working on a desktop app written in VB and a mobile app written using AngularJS.
- Made suggestions to the fundamental architecture of the Wealthtrack system that would improve its performance and maintainability. I was not in the role long enough to enact most of my proposals but I am certain the suggestions alone were a good contribution.

Jan 2015 - May 2016 ***Enterprise Registry Solutions Limited***
C# Developer

- **Key technologies: ASP.NET, WCF, MVC, Nunit, SSMS, Linq, SVN, JIRA**
- I was involved in writing and testing a large-scale web services project written in C#. I was responsible for ensuring that the webs services met business requirements and was written in such a way as to make meeting future requirements as easy as possible. My work was evenly split between (automated) testing, (manual) debugging and writing fresh code.
- The back-end was written in accordance with MVC principles, ensuring loose coupling between the data level and the application level. I wrote and debugged XML Web API calls, work which often led me to analysing the front-end code, thereby gaining understanding of the MVC pattern (the ASP.NET implementation of it, at least).
- The data access layer was written using Entity Framework. Since the DB schema, project configuration and POCO generation were managed by my superiors, I did not have much hands-on experience with the DB administration. However, I can understand web.config connection strings and know my way around SSMS fairly well.
- I became very proficient at Nunit during this job, relying on it heavily to ensure that the code I wrote worked properly and that bugs were caught before they became JIRA issues. I am able to write smart reusable test cases such that testing can easily react to large changes in requirements or approach.
- Source control was done using SVN and issue tracking was done using JIRA. Agile methodologies were observed insofar as there was a daily stand-up each morning @10:00 and pair programming was allowed at any employee's whim.
- I left this job in order to try my hand at writing my own apps. Feedback from my colleagues and managers was overwhelmingly positive and we parted on excellent terms.

Oct 2013 - Nov 2014 ***Trinity College***
Calculus Tutor

- During my M.Sc., I worked part-time in the Trinity Maths department as a calculus tutor for first-year science students.

Jun 2012 - Oct 2013 ***KBC Bank***
VBA Developer

- **Key technologies: VBA, Excel**
- In KBC, Sandwith St, I wrote and maintained an Excel-based data entry and reporting platform purely using VBA. New applications being sent in to the bank by customers used to be entered manually into spreadsheets by two separate teams of employees. I improved data integrity and productivity with a multi-user platform based on VBA user forms. I was solely responsible for the creation and maintenance of this system.
- I also created an Excel workbook which allowed a user-configurable series of automatic mouse clicks, keyboard strokes, copies and pastes to do repetitive jobs. This was not adopted by other employees but a simplified version was used by two employees under my supervision for the automatic uploading of customer signature scans to a database. Database uploads from my department had to be done via a Java-based browser application, making the daily procedure very slow. My semi-automatic system improved filing efficiency in the department by 400%.
- It was while working at KBC that I found my passion for software development and decided to pursue a Masters in ubiquitous computing.

EDUCATION

Oct 2013 - Nov 2014 *Masters in Mobile and Ubiquitous Computing*

- A full-time one-year course taken as part of a scholarship awarded based on academic merit in Trinity College, the University of Dublin.

- For my dissertation, I wrote an implementation of a cutting edge plane-fitting approach (in the field of computer vision) using modern and efficient data-fitting libraries. The theoretical focus was on RANSAC and singular value decomposition.

- Final Results: (*70% = first*)

Course Title	Language	Final mark
Data Communications & Networks		85%
Middleware for Distributed Systems		77%
Embedded Systems	ARM Assembly Language	65%
Human-Computer Interaction		80%
Vision Systems	C++	75%
Individual Programming Project	Java	74%
Context Awareness		95%
Information Architecture	OWL	71%
UBICOM: State of the Art		62%
Data Comms Group Practical		71%
Middleware Group Project	Android Java	72%
Autonomous Systems Research	Python	60%
Dissertation	C++/Vision	Pass

Oct 2006 - Sep 2010 *B.Sc. Theoretical Physics*

- Achieved Trinity's five-year Foundation Scholarship based on outstanding academic merit.

Leaving Cert results: 580 points

- A1 in Maths, Physics, French, Biology
- A2 in Applied Maths, English
- C1 in German and passed ordinary level Irish

REFEREES

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