ALLEN FIRTH

CTO, Architect, Developer

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Summary

I have over **16 years** of experience in software development, project management and software team leadership. I am highly skilled in Microsoft technologies, patterns, practices and tools. I have extensive experience in object orientated architecture and design, systems design and development and coding practices specifically test driven development, agile and XP approaches.

I have been working as a developer and technical architect actively using C# and ASP.NET as well as SQL Server / Oracle for well over a decade. I am interested in **DDD**, **CQRS, event sourcing**, service orientated architecture and messaging.

I have been exposed to varied industries and sectors as well as to all aspects of the software development lifecycle from conception of the software project idea, through analysis, design and implementation and finally, maintenance and support of the final product.

Skill Set

SOFT SKILLS	Team leadership. People management. Mentoring. Strong communication skills. Problem solving. Developing skills in others. Managing remote development teams across geographic locations.
CORE TECH SKILLS	Visual Studio, .NET 4.5, C#, RESTful services, ASP.NET MVC / WebAPI, Microsoft Sql Server, Oracle, Git, AngularJS, X/HTML5, AngulaJS, CSS, npm, gulp, bower, JavaScript, Windows Azure
METHODOLOGIES ARCHITECTURES PATTERNS	Test Driven Development (**TDD**), **XP**, **Agile**, Service Orientated Architecture (**SOA**), Event Driven Architecture (**EDA**), Command & Query Responsibility Segregation (**CQRS**), Domain Driven Design (**DDD**), Aspect Orientated Programming (**AOP**)
OTHER	**NServiceBus**, Microsoft Message Queue (**MSMQ**), **NHibernate**, **EntityFramework**, **Team City** (Continuous Integration Servers), Autofac, Castle Windsor (IoC/DI frameworks), **Resharper**, MSBuild, NCover, NUnit, xUnit, Moq, FakeItEasy, NSubstitute, **TestDriven.NET**, TFS, **SVN**, Octopus Deploy, Nuget
INTERESTS	**F#**, Mercurial, Behaviour Driven Design (**BDD**), RavenDB & NoSQL databases.

Education / Certification

2003	Bachelors of Commerce (Informatics), UNISA (University of South Africa)
2000	Microsoft Certified Solutions Developer (MCSD) / Microsoft Certified Professional (MCP)

EXPERIENCE / EMPLOYMENT

CTO SMEASY – MAR 2015 – CURRENT: DURBAN, SOUTH AFRICA

I am currently working as CTO of SMEasy, coordinating and managing all technical aspects of this exciting online accounting package startup for small to medium sized enterprises. My role is multi-faceted and includes the following:

- Providing key technical insight to the SMEasy board in order to aid them in strategic decision making.
- Overall technical leadership and guidance of the SMEasy product
- Further development of product offerings
- Managing and leading development resources and outside contractors
- System architecture and development
- Process reengineering & new technology investment

SOFTWARE CONSULTANT WITH DIGITERRE – FEB 2011 – FEB 2015, LONDON (CONTRACT)

As a software consultant working with Digiterre I was exposed to a number of high profile clients and projects in the role of architect and software developer.

[M & G Investments](#) **(Investment house)**

Our mandate was to introduce agile practices into the development team at [M & G](#). We incorporated Continuous integration into the development cycle, automated unit, integration and acceptance tests as well as automated application deployment and database deployment in all environments. We were also responsible for working closely with the [M & G](#) developers in a coaching and mentoring capacity to teach new skills and impart accepted industry patterns, practices and design principles.

[EDF Trading](#) **(Energy trading)**

I worked on a small team of four developers in a highly agile fashion developing a small Master Data Management system and an Initial Margins tool used to calculate initial margins on all EDF Trading energy positions. These margins would then be reconciled with the initial margin positions calculated by the clearing houses. The application wrapped a third party tool which performed the calculations and facilitated an automated process whereby input data from EDF systems was loaded on a daily basis and initial margin reports were automatically generated for the business to reconcile.

Technologies & Methodologies used: Visual Studio 2013, C#, WPF with Telerik WPF controls, SignalR, ASP.NET WebAPI restful service endpoints, SQL Sever, EntityFramework, xUnit, TFS, Agile, Kanban, SCRUM

[EON Trading](#) **(Energy trading)**

I worked primarily as the team lead on a large project for [EON Energy](#) developing a Transfer Pricing management tool. The project team was spread over London, Dusseldorf and India and required strong coordination and communication to keep the project on track. In the last two years we have brought this project to completion and are now in the process of handing it over for support and maintenance to an outsourced provider chosen by EON.

The solution we provided made use of Oracle, server side service components and a WPF user interface. The system worked on large sets of data output by models and involved a series of calculations and data manipulation in order to output the required reports and data analysis required by the business.

Technologies & Methodologies used: Visual Studio 2013, C#, Oracle 11g, NHibernate, FluentNHibernate, NUnit, RhinoMocks, NAnt/MSBuild, DBDeploy.NET, WPF, Telerik, TeamCity, SVN

Earlier in my work with Digiterre I also worked on an asset management system for [Royal London Asset Management](#) and also a short stint on a project for [Deutsche Bank](#).

MAN INVESTMENTS *HEDGE FUND - JUL 2010 – FEB 2011, LONDON (CONTRACT)*

I worked as part of a geographically distributed team working on systems integration of multiple disparate applications in the middle office of the world's largest Fund of funds. Our development team facilitated systems communication between various data sources and applications using a variety of request/response and publish/subscribe messaging solutions built on Oracle weblogic / MSMQ and a custom in-house messaging bus.

The team used SCRUM to run and manage month long sprints. SCRUM teams were located in different offices and communication was paramount to successfully completing work. Part of the teams mandate was to introduce in increasing measures the principles of Agile development, increase the test coverage of the code base and strongly push the ethos of TDD.

I worked on various different systems including middle office fund accounting, Fee calculation, Foreign Exchange and Trade planning.

Technologies & Methodologies used: Visual Studio 2010, C#, Sql Server 2005, Oracle 10g, NHibernate, NUnit, Rhino.Mocks, TestDriven.Net, NAnt scripts, Cruise Control, Hudson, Resharper, MSMQ/Oracle Weblogic, Log4Net for logging.

BRITINSURANCE *- FEB 2010 – JUN 2010, LONDON (CONTRACT)*

I worked in a team of eight developing an online system enabling BritInsurance to manage insurance sold through their network of brokers. The system was loosely coupled employing a publish/subscribe messaging model implemented with **NServiceBus** to achieve decoupling of logically separate components, high availability and reduce dependencies on other systems.

The team worked in an agile fashion using a continuous integration environment (**Team City**) alongside unit and integration testing and automated deployment to provide timely feedback to developers on the health of the codebase as a whole. A Kanban board was used to monitor and manage the project's progress and the team operated in a self-managing style with emphasis on distribution of system knowledge amongst the whole team and each member taking responsibility for the whole system.

Technologies used: C#, ASP.Net MVC, jQuery, JSON, NServiceBus, WCF, CQRS, DDD, EDA, NUnit, Moq, Castle Windsor

A more comprehensive list of my experience dating back to 2000 can be viewed on my website – [allenfirth.info](#)