

Michael Hoitomt

Background

I am a Java and Ruby on Rails programmer interested in helping customers with their software application development. Because of my diverse background I bring a more customer-focused approach to software development. I've been on the customer side providing requirements, analyzing the finished product and prioritizing enhancements. This experience gave me the skills to better communicate with my customers and to deliver better applications.

Professional Developer

I understand the key concepts to developing a large software application from my experience as a developer at UnitedHealth Group. Elegant, readable, robust code is very important when developing software regardless of the number of users. But it takes on extra importance when your code determines whether people can access their health insurance. Our software application administers over 6 million Medicare members and many hundreds of internal users. The edge effects from changes can be difficult to track down so it is important that your enhancements fit into the existing structure without causing ripples. If something is coded incorrectly, not only do our users let us know, but our members and the U.S. Government will let us know as well.

Diverse Skills

Working on Ruby on Rails projects, both on my own and for paying customers, has been the perfect augmentation to my day job as a Java programmer. Ruby on Rails gives me the tools and the flexibility to create and maintain the Chippewa Valley Habitat for Humanity site among other sites. CVH4H uses the site to manage their workshop syllabi and attendance and collect volunteer profiles including a list of skills from each of their volunteers. CVH4H continues to be pleased with the application and I've recently upgraded the site to Rails 3.0. You can view my list of [projects](#) for an overview of the Ruby on Rails projects that I've worked on.

Working Relationships

My business and engineering background combined with my development experience give me a unique skillset. Not only can I develop stable applications but I understand that good requirements and good quality assurance are essential for a successful project. I appreciate how important good communication is, not only when gathering requirements, but throughout the entire SDLC (Software Development Life Cycle). It's important that an open dialogue exist so that requirements are understood and a full solution is delivered that meets the customer's needs.

Please use my contact page to inquire about working with me on your development needs. I look forward to working with you.