

**Howard R. Abbey**  
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### **Summary**

Firmware programming, characterization of I.C.'s, and disk drive testing experience combined with excellent educational record. Well versed in Japanese practices and comfortable working in a multi-national environment. Strong integration troubleshooting experience, with understanding of embedded microcode.

### **Technical Skills**

- C programming, bash and C shell scripting, HTML
- SCSI and mobile disk drive firmware testing
- C++, RISC/MIPS assembly, Fortran and PowerPC assembly programming familiarity
- Linux, Unix, Windows, and MS-DOS computer operating systems
- PC assembly, repair, and network troubleshooting

### **Professional Experience**

#### **Integration and Characterization Engineer (4/00 to 1/02)**

IBM Microelectronics, Burlington, VT

- Determined and resolved problems with read/write path on mobile disk drives.
- Served as a prime contact between Japanese and American development teams, facilitating communication and cooperation.
- Tested performance of read channel chips, giving feedback to designers allowing prompt problem correction and product enhancement.
- Spent total of 3 months problem solving on site in Japan, while maintaining close working relationship with American team members.
- Solved problems including microcode usage issues, product issues, and test screen issues.
- Increased range of early user hardware lab tests by automating test equipment via GPIB and C code.

#### **Research Assistant (7/98 to 5/99)**

C & C Media Research Lab, Nippon Electronics Corporation, (N.E.C.) Tokyo, Japan

- Simulation, testing and design of echo-cancellation DSP adaptive filter systems for speech recognition systems.
- Learned Japanese technical business practices through observation and participation in the research environment.

## **Experience (continued)**

### **Firmware co-op Engineer** (6/97 to 11/97)

Storage Systems Division, International Business Machines, (I.B.M.) Rochester, MN

- Studied assembly language microcode and Japanese documentation for hard drive interface processor for presentation to co-workers, allowing future products to build from that base.
- Researched performance of high-end hard disk drives, proving viability of new cache indexing algorithm.

## **Education**

### **Michigan Technological University** (M.T.U.), Houghton, MI

BS in Electrical Engineering, Computer Engineering Option. Certificate in Modern Language and Area Study in French. G.P.A.: 3.51 / 4.0 Graduation date: 11/99

### **Japan Center for Michigan Universities**, Hikone-shi, Shiga-ken, Japan

One-year thematic focusing on Japanese language and culture. (9/94 to 4/95)

## **Language Skills**

- Japanese working vocabulary and basic communication skills
- Able to read approximately 250 Japanese kanji characters.
- French survival skills.
- Willingness and ability to learn more languages.