

JAMES MCNICHOLAS

Senior Developer at IG Group

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📍 London, UK

🔗 <https://jamesmcnicholas.co.uk>

INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

IG | IG Group - Senior Developer

📅 Jan 2025 – Present

📍 City of London, UK

- Led migration of legacy CentOS servers to Rocky 9 VMs with zero production downtime
- Facilitated vendor integration to enable algorithmic FX hedging
- Led the team's AI development strategy & MCP development

IG | IG Group - Java Engineer

📅 Jan 2022 – Jan 2025

📍 City of London, UK

Working across order management and broker connectivity

- Designed and implemented solution to monitor and limit users requesting RSP quotes en-masse without trading
- Delivered new asset classes and instruments for client trading.
- Led initiative to rewrite legacy Swing applications using Vaadin.
- Live production on-call support, rapidly resolving raised incidents.
- Led key weekend data centre failover "flips" for the DMA team.
- Maintained and upgraded existing order management systems utilising industry standard FIX messaging.
- Requirement definition, unit & integration testing, code reviews, deployments and ceremonies.
- Frequent cross-team and business facing interaction, translating between financial and technical teams.
- Used coaching, mentoring, and courses to develop leadership skills.
- International collaboration with offices in Spain, Poland and India.

CGI | CGI - Consultant Software Engineer - Space

📅 Sept 2019 – Dec 2021

📍 Surrey, UK

- C#/Java Developer for the OneWeb Satellite Megaconstellation Project. Led code reviews, process improvement, live system support and successful project reboot following Chapter 11 bankruptcy.
- C Developer responsible for correcting non-conformance software reports for a safety critical satellite navigation system.
- Python Developer tasked with implementation of a satellite automated test regression system following Agile practices.

CGI | CGI - Test Automation Analyst - Space

📅 Sept 2018 – Sept 2019

📍 Surrey, UK

- Wrote and managed automated E2E test suites for low-earth-orbit satellite & ground station monitoring.
- Oversaw nightly test suite runs and reported defects to developers ready for FAT and SAT events.
- Used SikuliX and Robot Framework to develop reliable computer image recognition.

OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE

WireITFree - Contract Computer Engineer

📅 Nov 2017 – July 2018

📍 Hampshire, UK

Avondale LTC - Tennis Leader

📅 Sept 2014 – Sept 2016

📍 Hampshire, UK

EDUCATION

BSc (Hons) Digital & Technology Solutions - 1st Class Honours

University of Winchester

📅 Sept 2018 - Jun 2021

- Sponsored Degree apprenticeship completed whilst working for CGI, attending university lectures alongside work.
- Course content covered on both computer science and business management concepts in detail.
- Dissertation: Research and development of a MEAN stack progressive web application to enhance and support fair career development of employees at CGI.

TECH

Core Java 8-17

FIX Protocol

Vaadin

Python

Git

Linux

Splunk

Claude/GPT

SQL

C#

Computer Hardware

SKILLS

AI Prompting

Adaptability

Problem diagnosis

Cohesive Team-working

Paired Programming

Putting out fires!

Agile/Kanban

Killer Badminton smash

Business communication

CSR / VOLUNTEERING

Run the River Charity 5k

📅 September 2024, September 2022

Planet Patrol River Cleanup

📅 August 2022, September 2022

Organised IG team volunteering day for London Arts and Health

📅 May 2022

Degree Apprentice open evening representative

📅 July 2019

Tennis Coaching Volunteer

📅 2016