

## Chris Pillion

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To Whom It May Concern:

For the past several months, I have been following Five Talent through the StartupBend website, waiting for an opportunity to confidently pitch the valuable contributions I believe I could make towards the company. During that time, I have watched the Five Talent company evolve, and I recognize the most essential aspects of the company revolve around their employees. A great product can only take you so far, but the right employees can take you anywhere. I have no doubt in my mind that I am the quick learning, dynamic, people-oriented person Five Talent seeks, and I am looking forward to contributing to their success.

There has never been a challenge or assignment in my professional career that I have failed to complete on time, on budget, and on point. During my time in the professional world, I've garnered the respect and attention of executives, senior managers, and peers alike because of my ability to produce reliable results within a given deadline. Regardless of the problem faced before me, my persistent iteration, evaluation, and determination to perfect by tinkering leads to praised solutions even when the issues are outside my experience level or area of expertise. Traditionally, I tend to downplay the praise that my coworkers direct towards me in order to facilitate an environment of humility and teamwork, but for now, I would like to emphasize that my skills and personality are exactly what Five Talent needs in its Software Developer role to overcome the challenges before them and capitalize on its potential.

My success as a Control Dynamics Engineer at United Launch Alliance led to my placement on a small development team, made up of 100-125 employees (about 4% of the total company) functioning as its own entity within the company to design the next generation launch vehicle. Most of these team members were trusted veterans within the company, with a minimum of 10 years experience in the company, but I am proud to note that I was the youngest person in this "start-up" and agile development environment. My analyses and studies supporting the new Vulcan launch vehicle substantially lowered recurring costs (in some cases by figures such as 1 million dollars per launch) and facilitated more agile and effective design practices like the Scrum methodology. I was a specialist representing my core Control Dynamics group in a fast paced, individual resource environment. Being directly responsible for the stability and control of the vehicle, my job responsibilities dealt directly with both hardware and software including, but not limited to; actuator design, software development, rate gyro sensor architecture, separation system design, and more. Because of the leading edge nature of the work, our team was also responsible for developing new software tools that utilize solid design practices to preserve maintainability and operation for years to come. Because all aspects of the rocket affect the stability and control of the system, I possess a wide variety of skills and knowledge in order to ensure those systems are being designed correctly.

Despite my success at United Launch Alliance, I opted to depart from that position to pursue something I am more passionate and interested in. I am in the final semester of my Computer Science Graduate degree and am looking to enter the software world. Five Talent has had huge success and is maintains constant growth year after year. With accomplishments like the successful engineering and consulting on projects like Discover Your Forest and Pole Pedal Paddle, more projects are being fed into the Five Talent product pipeline and it is essential Five Talent finds well rounded individuals like myself in order to spearhead any challenges that may arise along the way. Five Talents's CEO, Preston Callicott, not only created a company that successfully pushes the boundaries of software, but founded a passionate community of problem solvers that inspire admirers like me to drop their current situations and take up what motivates and fuels them. If you don't enjoy what you are doing, there is no sense in doing it, and I am willing to drop my current situation, to pursue what motivates and invigorates me.

I belong at Five Talent. My equal parts innovator, nerd, genius, and joker put no question to that. The initiative to further my experience in the hands-on world while putting my education to use excites me beyond an imaginable level. I am a **computer scientist** with experience in object-oriented programming,

multiple languages like C++ and C#, and concepts such as Design Patterns and git. I am an **engineer** with experience in meticulous design, solid engineering practices, and exceptional agile program management. I am a **team worker**, willing to help, push forward, and support in an agile environment. And lastly, I am a **personality** – someone who is going to connect with the team around me to innovate, laugh, and push the limits of both fun and technology. The Software Developer role aligns directly with the skills I have to offer, and there couldn't be a better-matched job opening for a well-balanced person like myself.

If you've made it this far in this letter and would like to learn more, I strongly recommend reviewing my website at **[www.christopherpillion.com](http://www.christopherpillion.com)** to further reveal who I am and what I can do for Five Talent.

I would greatly appreciate any time spent looking through my application package and, if possible, an opportunity to interview for the Software Developer position. I would be more than happy to answer any questions for you, or simply just talk to get to know each other. Thank you for your time and good luck filling the spot!

Chris Pillion