

Kiffin Gish

Advanced Software Development for the Web

Gouda, The Netherlands

kiffin.gish@planet.nl



Summary

I build slick web-based applications and platforms using Ruby on Rails and modern JavaScript.

View myself as young at heart, willing and enthusiastic, with a drive to work with others in a close-knit, hard-working team environment.

Enjoy complex challenges where a proper balance between the technical and commercial dimensions makes or breaks a successful product roll out.

Have coached and inspired teams of international developers, thereby familiar with the cultural differences and team dynamics that go together when delivering quality products which must meet high expectations of demanding customers.

As a Certified Scrum Master and trained Product Owner, I've had extensive experience with various roles in an agile software development environment.

I get a thrill out of motivating and inspiring a team of enthusiastic technical experts to achieve excellence.

Born and raised in the United States, have lived in the Netherlands for nearly thirty-five years, own a Dutch passport, can speak/write Dutch fairly fluently.

My wife is from Holland, we have raised four kids, we own a brown Labrador Retriever, and our home for the last twenty odd years has been in Gouda.

Am a fanatic golfer always trying to improve myself, in more ways than one.

Skills

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|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| ■ Team and project management | ■ Client/server architecture |
| ■ Coaching and training | ■ Web-based platforms |
| ■ Software development life-cycle | ■ Release management |
| ■ Agile and Scrum processes | ■ Continuous delivery |
| ■ Test-driven development | ■ DevOps |

Work experience

Europeana / July-2017 to August-2017

Ruby on Rails developer
The Hague, The Netherlands

Worked on the open source [Portal Collections Platform](#) developing new features, fixing bugs and writing unit and integration tests. As an active member of the Scrum team, I designed and integrated the new Entity API with the [Europeana Collections](#) website via Blacklight and Pattern Lab. Relevant skills include: Ruby on Rails, RSpec, JavaScript and PostgreSQL.

Gishtech / Jan-2016 to Present

Full-stack web developer
Gouda, The Netherlands

Provide professional consultancy on advanced software development for the web, agile methodologies, tooling, people and processes. Pure front- and backend development from user stories and software programming, through testing, deployment and after-care. HTML5, CSS3, Sass, JavaScript (jQuery, Backbone, Ember, Express. and Node), Ruby on Rails, C/C++ and Perl. Linux, Apache, MySQL and PostgreSQL. I know Agile, Scrum or just plain hands-on roll up your sleeves and get the job done. More details: <http://gishtech.com>.

Blokker Holding / May-2015 to Dec-2015

Release Manager
Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Defined and tracked process for delivering quality products according to deadlines. Worked closely with Nextail in planning of product roll-outs that was essential in meeting high expectations in the retail segment. The E-commerce backend was based on IBM WebSphere which provided a unified platform for store chains falling under Blokker Holding (Blokker, Xenos, Intertoys, Leen Bakker, Bart Smit and Marskramer).

Zarafa / Jan-2014 to Jan-2015

Development and Release Manager
Delft, The Netherlands

I was responsible for the development, quality assurance and release management of all of the Zarafa open source email and collaboration software products. The ZCP platform provided an advanced middleware solution based on Linux as a viable replacement for MS-Exchange. Introduced a more agile software development process pipeline based on Scrum and Continuous Delivery. Teams located in Holland, India, Germany and Brazil. International partners and customers. Man management, coaching and training. Relevant languages: C/C++, Python, Ruby and MVC JavaScript.

Sdu Information Solutions / Dec-2011 to Jan-2014
Manager Development
Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Built up a software development factory to support a product suite of advanced web-based content platforms for government, municipalities and provinces. Involved with streamlining the software development processes, as well as the overall process improvement for supporting other departments and external technology partners. Provided second line support to the help-desk with maintenance and trouble-shooting, functional and technical application issues. Built from scratch a new professional software development environment based on Agile/Scrum. Relevant languages: Java, JEE, JavaScript, PHP, Ruby on Rails.

Navteq/Nokia / Dec-2010 to Jul-2011
Development Team Manager (Lead Engineer)
Frankfurt, Germany

Responsible for the search and geocoding development team which designed, built and deployed an advanced web-based map services platform for international customers wanting to leverage their presence in the location based services (LBS) arena. Ramped up an international team of software developers using Agile and Scrum, continuous delivery and test driven development, a key focus being man management and agile coaching. Relevant languages: Java, JEE, Lucene, JavaScript, C/C++.

Interapy / Apr-2009 to Nov-2010
Head of ICT
Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Responsible for infrastructure, maintenance and support, and new development activities. Migrated legacy systems to a modern high available hosted infrastructure. Web-based computer mediated therapy via the Internet using the Perl web framework called Catalyst, JavaScript (jQuery). Worked closely with expert psychologists in designing and implementing the next generation flag ship therapy product. Designing, implementing online screening surveys and scoring methods/models for treatment protocols.

TomTom International / May-2007 to Apr-2009
Team Leader Software Development
Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Responsible for an international team of software engineers designing, developing and rolling out a robust and highly scalable LBS (location based services) platform. In addition to providing geocoding, mapping, HD traffic, travel advisor and POI capabilities, we built a web-based route planner for showcasing the extensive TomTom product portfolio on the company web site (routes.tomtom.com), which received very positive reviews worldwide. Based on agile software development (Scrum), using JEE, C/C++, Perl, Apache,

JavaScript. Did man management, recruitment and coaching. Created from scratch and gave inhouse Scrum trainings for developers and project leaders.

Previous / Mar-1988 to May-2007

Team Leader, Project Manager, Software Developer and System Engineer
Den Haag, Amsterdam, Leeds (UK), Utrecht

More details concerning my previous work experience, skills and various functions, as well as references can be provided upon request.

Education

Vrije Universiteit (1983 - 1988)
Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Drs / Physics and Computer Science

Stanford University (1975 - 1979)
Palo Alto, California, USA
BS / Biology and Chemistry (Pre-Med)

Salinas High School (1971 - 1975)
Salinas, California, USA
HS / High School Diploma

Born and raised in sunny California, came to Europe as an adventurous backpacker and ended up staying in Holland.

Interests

Good fiction (psychology, history, philosophy and computer books), watching film classics, (modern) classical music, rock-and-roll, and country, programming for fun, jogging and cycling.

Often get carried away playing on my laptop into the wee hours of the morning thinking that I'm some kind of future-famous web developer.

Am captivated by the latest improvements of Internet and computer technology, never too old to learn new stuff.

Greatest passion is the honorable game of golf (handicap 4) which I play passionately at competition level. Live life like it's a round of golf and play golf as it mimics life.