# Mock Interview

Questions

Employer: Timeless Veterinary Systems (TVS)

Position: PHP Web Developer

Applicant: Chris Sigouin

1. With your experience you would be looking for an entry level position correct? This makes you an investment for the company. What in the long run can you provide that would make you the top candidate for this job?

Yes I would be interested in an entry level position. To offset any investment costs I would provide a different outlook on projects and add my own creative thinking processes to your team. My interpersonal skills would create great client relations and I would utilize my technical skills to build solid software infrastructure.

1. In your resume I see you worked with clients while you were with Bell Aliant. How frequently were you working with clients?

My initial role was to receive inbound calls from clients of Bell Aliant with overdue accounts. I was constantly engaged with them working to schedule payment plans, ensuring billing dates are correct and transferring them if they required any assistance beyond my own roles. My second role as a sales representative also placed me in an inbound queue where I took customer orders, upsold products and ensured total customer satisfaction.

1. Here at Timeless we are credited with strong client relations. Do you feel you can provide top class client support and continue to build this companies reputation? What is your experience in working with clients?

I do feel that I have the necessary technical and interpersonal skills to not only maintain, but surpass client expectations. I have 7+ years in the telecommunications industry behind me including volunteer development experience. When I client is not happy, I am not happy and I work towards a solution to meet and exceed the customers satisfaction.

4) Our company believes in challenging the status quo to develop technologies that raise the bar for veterinary patient care. What do you think you can do to help us challenge the status quo to create revolutionary breakthroughs in our users experience

Keeping above the bare minimum is what I strive for in my own projects. I believe that ensuring clients receive something more than what they expect is the goal in every request. Breakthroughs happen when high standards such as those are met. [ EXAMPLE OF VETERINARIAN NEED TO DEVELOP SOFTWARE FOR AUTOMATION OF DUTIES ]

* On your resume you mentioned that you “designed an online presence for a small business”, from scratch. Could you provide some detail as to what you did with that? Services and technologies you used, why?

The website was to offer trailer rentals in a campground located here in PEI called Marco Polo Land. Initially I communicated with the client via email to find out exactly what they were looking for in a new design. The site owners required a better system where they could manage requests to rent the trailers. It was quite outdated and required a complete redesign. Their current system used a calendar to log the name and contact numbers of the clients. Once I had the details down I proceeded to sketch up a wireframe of the website. My idea was to implement a “ticket system“ much like one that I used while employed with Atelka. It was designed using PHP to implement the server/client aspect so that it could interact with a MySQL database. The database would hold all the ticket information and would be manageable from a backdoor administration page from the site. The site also was able to interact with Paypal and provide payment options. Unfortunately after I was close to completion the site owners changed hands and did not want the design I developed. It still uses PHP but not for server side usage. Jquery is also integrated for the navigation bar. I was new to Jquery at the time and wanted to test its functionality.

* Why did you choose the CIS program at Holland College?

The timeframe of the course was shorter than the program offered at UPEI which was my second option. It provided a faster opportunity to employment. My prior place of education at Eastern College was a private institution, so I wanted a more community based environment as well.

* What subjects did you like the best? Why?

I enjoyed both technical and non-technical subjects. Object oriented approaches are appealing to me in Java and Web Development. Also practicing Presentation skills and team communication was challenging and rewarding in itself.

* How has your experience in the CIS program prepared you for a career in software development?

Group projects have given me a sense of working with a group of people towards a common goal. Every assignment given to me in my course I strived to exceed what was required because the bare minimum doesn’t make a good impression. Also, the program has given me a solid foundation of technical skills to allow me to contribute with minimal training required.

* What made you decide to apply for this position (PHP Web Developer) with us (TVS)?

4 items from the company link of your website can describe why I applied:

Work that will challenge and inspire…as I love to be challenged and work great under pressure.

Tremendous personal and professional growth…

I want to grow and be become better every day with anything I do

Work with some of the islands most talented and creative people…

I really enjoy to collaborate and learn from others

Encouraging creativity and innovation

I consider myself a creative person with a vivid imagination. Sharing my ideas

with others would be fantastic.

* Do you consider your skills with PHP, SQL, and JavaScript to be at a junior, intermediate, or experienced level?

As an entry level software developer I certainly categorize myself in the junior division. I do not doubt that I will have any issue reaching an intermediate or experienced level as I am a constant learner with patience.

* How much server work have you done? Are you familiar with Windows servers? How about Linux servers (Ubuntu, Red Hat, CentOS)?

The majority of my experience has been with Ubuntu Server. I have been able to configure a web server, setup ftp access for users, and install phpmyadmin for database usage. Command line for Ubuntu Linux was focused on through two courses and I’ve also had self-experience with the operating system as well.

* Where do hope to take your career over the next five years or so?

I see myself mastering my programming abilities, learning new software development languages maybe and managing a project from conception to completion. My future in the IT development field is bright and full of growth.

* Do you have any questions for us?
* What do you like about working here?
* Who does this position report to? If I am offered the position, can I meet him/her?
* How does one advance in the company?
* What is the company's management style?
* How much travel is expected?