




Matthew Spence


FULL STACK ENGINEER



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TECHNICAL COFOUNDER

Trakio Apr 2013 - Sept 2015



Responsibilities

My main focus was on building product and the technology that ran it. This meant a lot of project management, product design and application development. I also had to become competent with SysAdmin tasks and implemented our own AWS setup using Chef.

Hiring and managing technical people working with us, including employees and contractors. Communicating requirements with them, often using remote technologies, sometimes across timezones. Training employees, providing direction and mentorship for their personal development.

Skills & Technologies

Ruby, Rails, Sinatra, OAuth, MongoDB, RabbitMQ, Chef, AWS, GIT, Photoshop, JavaScript, CoffeeScript, D3, Highcharts, jQuery, Less/CSS

TECHNICAL COFOUNDER

Virally Jun 2012 - Apr 2013



Responsibilities

As a technical cofounder, I had to wear many hats, however my main responsibilities were concerned with managing and building the product. Wireframing, product design, user experience, application development, AB testing, customer support, infrastructure design and maintenance.

Skills & Technologies

Ruby, Rails, JavaScript, Less/CSS, PostgreSQL, Heroku, GIT

SENIOR CONSULTANT & LEAD DEVELOPER

Fruitbowl Media Mar 2012 - Aug 2012



Responsibilities

Meeting with clients, understanding the problems they were facing, listening to what they believed the solutions should look like and then working with them to refine their vision into packages of work with specifications, timelines and costs. Executing those specifications, choosing relevant technologies, managing other designers and developers within the team, ensuring quality of work across all involved. Coordinating with external resources and where necessary back with the client.

Skills & Technologies

PHP, Wordpress, JavaScript, MySQL

WEB DEVELOPER

University of Kent Nov 2007 - July 2012



Responsibilities

Scope, spec', plan, design, develop, deploy, and advise on usable and intuitive web applications. The online payments systems, including the student fee gateway. Implementing and offering support for the departmental web template. Oral and written communication to a wide number of people including: internal customers, end users, external suppliers, team members, colleagues in other teams, management. Making decisions and directly advising and consulting on decisions to do with: appropriate use of technology, design, implementation of technology, user experience. Writing project plans, breaking down tasks for planning and assignment to developers, managing budgets, coordinating and managing assigned resources from other teams. Recognising opportunities for technical or design solutions or improvements and turning these into deliverables. Investigating new development techniques and software and their impact at Kent. User research, through conducting and consulting surveys, focus groups and user testing.

Skills & Technologies

PHP, Symfony, Drupal, MySQL, CSS, Photoshop

WEB DEVELOPER/DESIGNER

University of Kent Nov 2005 - Nov 2007



Responsibilities

Translating established print based design and branding to the web. Implementing that design into PHP/CSS based templates with dynamically configurable options. Working within restrictive bureaucratic constraints, with legacy systems and workflows. Providing technical support and writing documentation for departmental publishers. Supervising, managing, training, and mentoring juniors.

Skills & Technologies

Photoshop, Dreamweaver, PHP, HTML, CSS, SVN

UNIVERSITY OF KENT

Multimedia Design & Tech BSc Sept 2004 - July 2007

ROYAL HOSPITAL SCHOOL

GCSEs & A Levels (UK High School) Sept 1997 - July 2004



A Levels: Business, Physics, Maths, Politics **GCSEs:**

English Literature, English Language, Maths, Double Science, Geography, History, Maths, French

Other Interests

I understand the importance of a balanced lifestyle, and have many interests beyond software development, here are a few:

Learning Spanish: My partner is Mexican American and as part of an effort to learn about her heritage and culture I am learning Spanish. After sixth months I now have some basic conversational abilities. Apparently I need to be fluent before we have children!

Powerlifting: I turned my fitness around about three years ago, and in the last year have been focusing mostly on powerlifting. I have a goal of achieving a combined total of 1000lbs which I'm very close to.

Lacrosse: I'm a casual lacrosse player to say the least, but for what I need, some where to blow off some steam and relax, it is perfect.

Snowsports: I'm a proficient skier and a distinctly average boarder, I try to get a week on the snow in at least once a year.