from the desk of

NICHOLAS WIELAND

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Via Campino, 4
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Experience

BDFL, StyleJam, Seattle, 2011 - 2012
I implemented the whole platform again from the ground up, using RubyOnRails and Goliath.io. I also wrote on the blog, took care of public relations, marketing, sales, accounting, system administration, and pretty much everything you can eventually think someone can do in a company.

CTO, Zooppa.com, Venice, 2007 - 2010
I developed the site from the ground up, caring about the implementation, maintenance , architecture, and taking every technological choice from the very beginning. I managed the product for clients like Google, Microsoft, Sun, AT&T, Samsung, Fiat and many others, interacting with their development teams on a daily basis.

Lead developer, Hotchalk, Campbell, CA, 2006 - 2007
I helped the team to startup the company, rewriting a Java application in Ruby on Rails. The rewrite was a huge success, the codebase was completely covered by tests so we've been able to release a product with very few defects and a reduced / cleaner codebase.

The site had more than 30k registered users on the first day, and is now helping hundreds of schools to keep pupils, teachers and parents connected.

Author, Apogeo, Milan, Italy, 2006 - 2007
I authored a chapter of the first book in italian language about Ruby, explaining how to use databases in Ruby. The book is still around and I find mentions of it pretty much everywhere in italian IT groups

Developer, Assembla, Needham, MA, 2006
I worked inside the Assembla team to the initial implementation of their Breakout system (http://www.assembla.com). Assembla tries to connect developers around the world and gives them good tools to work with. Initially, Breakout was written in RubyOnRails and based on svn and trac. I worked at the Ruby part.

Developer, *, around Italy, 2003 - 2005
After my first work experience I wanted to give myself as much experience as I could, so I started to work as a consultant for many italian companies while working myself on some free software projects like the Application Server Zope. My customers included Monte dei Paschi di Siena (that still has some of my systems in production), Telecom and many others.

I wrote everything I could, from websites to client software for Fax Servers. The tlanguages involved were mainly Python, PHP and to a minor extent Java.

Developer, Neato Europe, Mantua, 2001 - 2002
At neato I built their e-commerce site and their CRM systems. It was my first working experience and I learned a lot. The main site was in PHP, ported from an ASP3 site. The CRM in Zope. I also happily managed their 3 FreeBSD servers.

Education
Liceo Linguistico Redentore

Skills
I'm a language geek, everything that has a syntax and semantics interests me. I'm an experienced developer in Ruby, Python, PHP, Scheme and some Lisp implementations. I know C and Javascript as well.

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I love design, I can work with XHTML and CSS without any kind of problem. I also study the subject and I am a strong proposer of usability and accessibility. I've conducted usability tests in the past and I would be happy to repeat the experience.

I enjoy database systems, and I've used most of them during my work life: MySQL, SQLServer, Oracle are just some names. I strongly support PostgreSQL as my DB server of choice. I'm also very fond of NoSQL databases, especially MongoDB.

I can work on any kind of Unix system, and even if I'm not a sysadmin I can also administer them. Personally, I prefer working on OS X, but I'm glad to get my hands dirty with FreeBSD or Linux too. I do not enjoy working on Windows, so please, don't be silly and give me an environment I'm productive with.