HR Manager   April 13, 2016
Starfish Medical
Victoria B.C.

Dear Sir or Madam,

I would like to submit my application for the Intermediate Firmware Engineer position advertised on the *Viatec* job board.

I am currently finishing my masters of applied science at the university of Victoria in which my focus has been hardware security which has included FPGA design and assembly programming. My current research focus, under Dr. Fayez Gebali, is the development of FPGA design security in the *Xilinx* tool-chain.. I have worked as a teaching assistant and tutor for *Uvic's* Computer Engineering 255: *Computer Architecture* for which my responsibility was the instruction of students in assembly programming in embedded platforms. During my undergrad I studied hardware design using VHDL for which I worked on multiple designs including a COORDIC algorithm processor.

In the final co-op position of my undergrad I worked as a research assistant at *Uvic*. My responsibility was the software, 'proof-of-concept', implementation of a new homomorphic encryption algorithm. My implementation was built using C++ and the openMP API; testing was performed on the *WestGrid* research computing network. During this time I gained viable experience in efficient coding practices and effective use of hardware resources which would prove invaluable to the firmware development team at Starfish Medical. In addition I have also used C++ in combination with OpenGL to develop animations to simulate real-world physical systems. Graphics programming is a highly complex, resource demanding enterprise which has further honed my hardware oriented programming skills. I am very proficient in web development using C#, Javascript, HTML and CSS. I am also very familiar with tools such as *Git*, LaTeX, performance profilers, and integrated development environments such as visual studio and eclipse

I am a skilled, hard-working developer with experience and knowledge I feel that I can bring to aid *Starfish Medical* in developing some of the most unique and advanced devices today. I learned the value of a team dynamic while working as a lifeguard and aquatic supervisor during my undergrad. I believe that this experience, my skill set, and my reliability would make me a valuable asset to the *Starfish Medical* team.

For this position I would hope to receive a salary in the range of $55,000 - $65,000$ per year however I am very willing to negotiate.

Yours faithfully,

Nick Houghton

Attached: curriculum vitæ

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