RTL

The Mikko Test
Candidate Sample Application
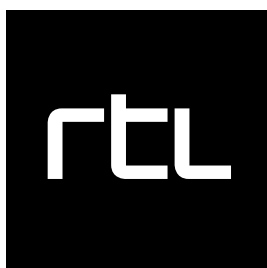
1. Introduction

At RTL we work on challenging projects for a range of our own large brands in The Netherlands. To ensure that the developers working on these projects possess the required skills and knowledge, our recruitment process is very thorough.

As a preparation for the interview with one of our senior developers, we would like to ask you to build a small sample application. This doesn't have to be a rock-solid, highly scalable super fancy production-ready application, but just something that allows us to get an idea of your coding skills. This document describes what we call 'The Mikko Test', named affectionately after Mikko Koppanen, that has designed the test in such a way that we can derive a number of qualities from your sample code.

There are no limits as to the amount of time you spend on this or the amount of code you write, but try to keep things simple. Of Course, it can be too simple: this is meant as a showcase of what you are capable of.

If you need frameworks, libraries or databases to write the application, please mention them in the documentation for your application.

Once you've finished the application, please send your results to your recruitment contact.

2. Requirements

You are required to create a small command-line utility to help a fictional company determine the dates they need to pay salaries to their sales department.

This company is handling their sales payroll in the following way:
- Sales staff get a regular monthly fixed base salary and a monthly bonus.
- The base salaries are paid on the last day of the month unless that day is a Saturday or a Sunday (weekend).
- On the 15th of every month bonuses are paid for the previous month, unless that day is a weekend. In that case, they are paid the first Wednesday after the 15th.

The output of the utility should be a CSV file, containing the payment dates for the remainder of this year. The CSV file should contain a column for the month name, a column that contains the salary payment date for that month, and a column that contains the bonus payment date.

3. Flowchart