Nowell Strite CV

# Nowell Strite

## Web Application Developer

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[GitHub](https://github.com/nowells), [Twitter](https://twitter.com/nowells), [Website](http://nowell.strite.org)

## About

* Proven developer with extensive "managing developer" experience leading the architecture and development of core products
* Embrace open source technology and the collaborative and iterative development approach that it inspires
* Employ an Agile based software development approach with a healthy recognition that interpretation is always necessary to craft a methodology that fits an organization's culture
* Proven ability to lead conversations with internal and external clients to extract business requirements and translate/distill stories into elegant and robust technical solutions
* Strong application architect and developer, leveraging rapid prototyping and iterative development
* Integrate solid communication skills and creative problem solving into every stage of development
* Commitment to a hiring and collaborative philosophy which creates a cohesive, dynamic and passionate development culture

# Skillset

## Server-side

Python, Django, Ruby, Ruby on Rails, RESTful Webservices, SOAP & XML-RPC, NodeJS, Java, PHP, ColdFusion

## Client-side

Javascript, Backbone.js, Require.js, D3.js, Handlebars.js, Mocha.js, Chai.js, LESS, SCSS, CSS, HTML

## DevOps

Chef, MySQL, PostgreSQL, SOLR, Cassandra, Nginx, Apache, Vagrant, Amazon EC2, Rightscale, EngineYard

## Other

Test Driven Development (TDD), Agile/XP, Unit Testing, Continuous Integration, Rapid Prototyping, Database Design, A/B Testing, High Availability (HA), Distributed Processing, Load Balancing

# Education

## University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

2000 - 2004 — Dean's List, 3.4 GPA

**Bachelor of Science in Computer Science, College of Engineering**

# Experience

## WiserTogether, Inc.

### Principal Engineer

2013 - Present — Python, Django, Javascript, D3.js, Require.js, Backbone.js, Mocha.js, Chai.js, PostgreSQL, Puppet, GIT

* Led the development of an interactive D3.js powered visualization tool that powered our [healthcare decision tool](http://nowells.github.io/resume/img/bullseye.gif)
* Developed a foundational Javascript framework for external contractors (built on on-top of Backbone.js) to ensure consistent approach to frontend javascript applications
* Established out automated frontend testing suite for our growing single page applications using Mocha/Chai/Karma.
* Spearheaded the development and Open Sourcing of several libraries used to grow our Backbone.js testing capabilities

## Draker Laboratories

### Director of Software Engineering

20011 - 2013 — Ruby, Ruby on Rails, Javascript, Backbone.js, MySQL, Cassandra, Chef, GIT

* Architected the core time-series data system to replace an aging MySQL solution with a highly scalable service backed by Clojure, Cassandra and RabbitMQ
* Established an Agile process to facilitate a rapid development and release cycle that significantly increased customer and company responsiveness and transition us from a release every few months, to multiple releases a week
* Successfully designed, developed, and led the technical merger of our product with our acquired company over the course of two months in order to differentiate us at our largest industry trade show in an increasingly dense competitive landscape
* Oversaw and negotiated a software staff increase as well as a company merger from five software developers to a fifteen member software development team consisting of QA, Design, DevOps, and Developers

## Public Broadcasting Service

### Senior Manager of Technology Solutions

2007 - 2011 — Python, Django, Javascript, Backbone.js, MySQL, SOLR, RabbitMQ, Amazon EC2, Paypal Payflow Pro, GIT

* Successfully launched the nationally recognized PBS LearningMedia service that powers 40+ PBS/partner educational sites
* Architected and developed the RESTful API service for the educational content service that runs PBS LearningMedia
* Designed and converted our system architecture to a auto scaling, load balanced clusters with a configuration management system to allow for automated/repeatable deployment of our production/staging/development environments
* Manage and inspire a team of 5 passionate, creative and diverse in-house developers along with multiple off site contractors
* Coordinate all product releases and development as lead architect and developer
* Direct projects through all phases of development (scope, requirements, use cases, design, prototyping, development and launch)
* Originate budgeting, project scheduling and application & server architecture
* Provide coordination with product management, program management, operations, IT and marketing/sales
* Crafted a software development life-cycle that fit the culture of PBS and implemented it into project intake and development processes
* Delivered multiple successful projects resulting in the growth of technical team from 2 to 6 individuals to accommodate demand

### Manager of Digital Development

2007 — Python, Django, Javascript, Backbone.js, MySQL, Xapian, Amazon EC2, Paypal Payflow Pro, GIT, SVN

* Demonstrated leadership as technical lead; managing multiple project timelines and deliverables; working with colleagues to identify and develop solutions to operational requirements and shortcomings
* Negotiated with multiple companies to donate products and services to PBS resulting in recurring savings of over $40,000 (Atlassian, ExtJS, Github, etc.)

### Senior Web Technologist

2005 - 2007 — ColdFusion, Java, Javascript, Microsoft SQL Server, Microsoft IIS, Visual Source Safe

* Developed and maintained existing e-commerce portal and learning management system
* Initiated transition to open source platform
* Spearheaded introduction of version control and deployment processes into the product development cycle

## Freelance

### Technical Consultant

2009 - Present — Python, Javascript, GIT

* Led the training, tailoring, and implementation of the Agile process into existing teams
* Implemented Version Control workflows from CVS/SVN/Rsync based systems to a GIT based system with a branching model that allowed for better feature isolation, bugfixing and deployment planning

## BearingPoint

### Systems Analyst

2004 - 2005 — PL/SQL, PHP, Oracle 9iAS, HTML, CSS, Javascript

* Built a suite of enterprise web applications using PL/SQL (Oracle 9iAS)
* Assisted client program managers in tracking and running metrics on their planned acquisitions and existing contracts

## Textron Lycoming

### Freelance Web Development Consultant

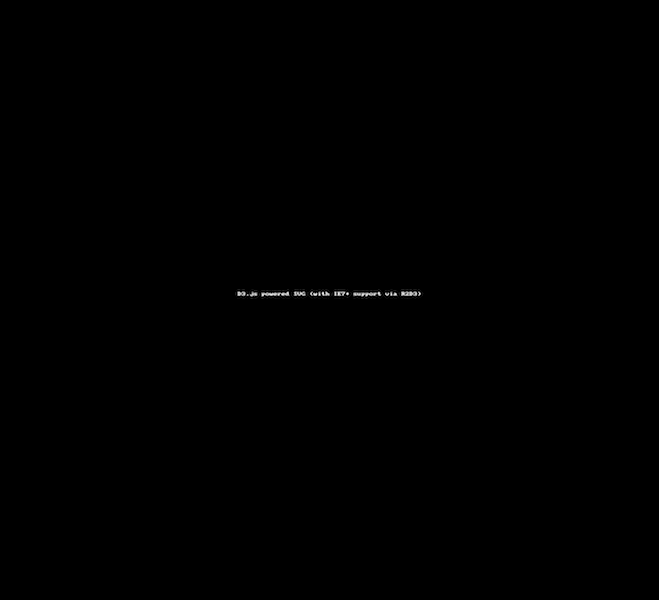
1998 - 2004 — Java, JSP, PHP, ASP, Visual Basic, DB2, Oracle, Microsoft IIS, HTML, CSS, Javascript

* Designed and provided ongoing development and maintenance of national award-winning dynamic Internet site to allow customers to access company resources (JSP with DB2 backend)
* Created and introduced, with continuing development and maintenance, a unique Intranet site providing executives and employees access to critical business and process information. (ASP with Oracle backend)
* Developed numerous custom applications and tools to solve unique client problems involving the conversion, automation, and filtering of business data (Visual Basic, PHP, ASP, Excel, Access)
* Created external marketing site, parts database

# Honors

* Received PCWeek magazine’s 1999 Fast Track Technology Innovations Award for Textron Lycoming website.
* Rated 4th place on “The Top 100” list of world-wide manufacturing companies "deploying leading-edge technologies"
* Recognized for achievement with six PBS “Bravo” performance awards over four and a half years
* Selected to present my “Pluggable Resuable Application” Design Pattern at DjangoCon ‘09

# Work Samples



Interactive D3.js Powered SVG Visualization tool (with R2D3.js fallback for IE7/8)

[Send Nowell an Email](mailto:nowell@strite.org)