Piran Montford — Senior Java Developer

# Contact Details

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# About Me

I am a senior agile full-stack developer, with 25 years of experience as a Senior Java Developer, Architect, Project Manager, Scrum Master, and Consultant. I am highly adaptable to meet the needs of the business as requirements change and evolve.

I have consulted for a number of global brands such as LEGO, Pottermore (Harry Potter) and Burberry, and also with smaller companies both in their start-up and expansion phases.

I take a broad view of development and beyond, with a keen insight into what’s required to get started and keep working, while managing dependencies and risk between streams of work. I focus on delivering a working and maintainable system to the customer, not just the software.

I have extensive experience in Java and Groovy with Spring on the back end, and React and other front-end frameworks. I am able to work across a range of systems and technologies.

I am an expert in Agile techniques, especially Extreme Programming within Scrum, particularly where it comes to the team rather than the individual. I believe strongly in being a hands-on developer and leading a team from the front. I’m a fan of pair programming, for both learning and quality.

I have always been client facing, dealing with both business and technical contacts. I have run courses for internal teams and external clients.

# What I’m Looking For

I am available now and looking for senior developer roles - preferably on contract but I am willing to look at permanent opportunities.

I am based in central London.

# Key Skills

Java: Java 8 and Java 11, and other JDK based languages such as Groovy.

Spring and Spring Beans.

React and JavaScript (and also worked in Angular and AngularJS).

TDD, including creating frameworks so whole system can be tested.

Team Leading, Scrum Master.

Agile and Scrum.

XP and Pair Programming.

Monitoring, observability and New Relic.

REST, Microservices, Swagger.

Always learning new technologies.

Gradle

Git

IntelliJ

Piran Montford — Work Experience

# Consultant at FundingXchange Ltd

## Sep 2019 – May 2020

Senior developer, agile, Java and SpringBoot, and React.

FundingXchange are a fintech startup matching funding providers to SMEs. They have a Java 8 monolith implementation, and had started building Java 11 microservices and a React front end. I provided expertise, training and guidance React development and acted as a senior developer, guiding on technology and agile process.

In their monolith, I pioneered a greater level of testing, where it had previously been seen as “too hard to test”. I introduced Power Mockito tests to break their monolith into testable components, and mentored the team on best practices.

We exposed APIs from the monolith, allowing functionality to be reused by their SpringBoot microservices. I then used these in developing the React front end for the mobile version of their main customer journey.

I implemented New Relic to ensure the services were fully monitored and observable. This quickly paid back allowing us to rapidly detect and fix production issues.

# Consultant at Leo Tech

## Apr 2018 – Feb 2019

Senior developer, agile, Groovy and SpringBoot, training, scrum master.

Brought in to fulfil a need for an experienced agile developer, I worked on a high-frequency transactional platform driving multiple front ends. I principally worked on the back end, built on Spring Boot’s, including Spring Cloud. The development was in the Java-based Groovy language on top of SpringBoot, MySQL, REST, Docker. We built for a varied set of microservice consumers, with performance, caching and stability key concerns across HTTP, internal caches, database usage, and consuming third-party REST and WebSocket services.

I also worked on the AngularJS and Angular front ends, introducing to pair programming and TDD into the development process.

I had to rapidly embed myself with the existing team. The system grew quickly in load and features, requiring fast development and delivery, and a changing design for rapid growth.

I promoted a stronger TDD-based development approach, and created tools to ease system testing which supported this, which also recovered lost requirements.

The company pivoted, moving development offshore to Kiev. I took on the additional roles of Scrum Master and “Knowledge Transfer Manager”, in charge of bringing the Ukrainian team on board. I trained them in the business area, the technical stack and architecture, Scrum and agile process, and developments skills often through pair programming. I gave tutorials on areas such as Groovy and Spock, Scrum, British English language and humour, and the rules of cricket. I also created training documentation and system documentation, and managed the training plan and visits.

# Consultant at e2x Ltd

## Mar 2017 – Aug 2017

1st Project: Defining and implementing non-functional requirements for an existing project, and passing on to support team. I created the security model. Technologies: Java, Hibernate and Spring Boot, REST microservices. I also updated the build & deploy process: Groovy and Jenkins Pipelines.

2nd Project: A client on a tight deadline had failed to enter integration testing. I was technical representative on a SWAT team for process and strategy to bring the project back on track. New targets were set, the process defined, and trackable deliverables defined.

3rd Project: Implementing Oracle’s Endeca Experience Manager onto a client’s existing Endeca and Oracle Commerce/ATG implementation. Introduced BackstopJS testing to ensure no visible front-end regressions. Implementation was Java and JavaScript.

# Consultant at Pottermore

## Oct 2016 - Mar 2017

This was a hands-on development role, building the infrastructure and import mechanisms to load a variety of Harry Potter related data into Google’s BigQuery engine. We created a repeatable build & deploy system for BigQuery, with a TDD framework for loading and stored queries. The tooling was Groovy on Heroku. I worked with the knowledge-holders to define requirements and understand the data.

# Solution Architect at LEGO

## Jan 2015 - Sep 2016

This was my second engagement as architect with LEGO’s on-line store, a flagship site supporting heavy traffic for a global audience. The role implemented LEGO’s first microservice architecture.

Starting as a consultancy role to specify LEGO’s strategic move to a microservices, I took part in workshops defining their global microservice architecture. We defined the company’s requirements for an API Gateway, deployment and rollout planning, and how standards could be achieved across varied systems. LEGO’s on-line shop was chosen as their initial project, and I pioneered that project.

With the role of Solution Architect, I specified a new implementation of their new system. The microservice back end was implemented in Java & Spring on top of an existing Oracle Commerce (aka ATG) store. The REST endpoints were exposed using an Apigee API gateway. The front end was isomorphic React hosted on AWS ElasticBeanstalk. OAuth2.0 secured the system at the API gateway, with traditional Java servlet session management to ATG behind. Both front end and APIs were heavily cached in Akamai. There were integrations to 40+ other systems. I worked to ensure a workable deliverable from a third-party designing a new look & feel.

As well as the design, technical direction and liaison, I worked defining work streams and deliverables. In specific areas, I also built test harnesses to enable TDD development with Akamai caching, Apigee API Gateway, Adobe Test & Target and analytics. With a rollout of so many new systems, I designed a staged go-live to ensure stability and continuity. The project was successfully delivered against the hard deadline of LEGO’s peak period.

The new site was built to run in parallel with the existing implementation, a site I had been architect for previously, and which had won Oracle ATG’s Implementation of the Year.

# Team Lead at Burberry

## Apr 2014 – Apr 2015

Part of a team initially brought on board to improve stability, I worked on integrating a new payment provider and handle requirements for Chinese ecommerce rollout. Built in Java on an existing Oracle Commerce/ATG system including CSC.

Particularly successful, I created a testing framework that allowed testing of the asynchronous queued fulfilment and payment modules; this allowed us to recreate the lost requirements through tests, and to ensure no regression during re-implementation.

# Previously

Senior Developer, e2x Limited, Aug 2013 – Mar 2014  
Various Java and ATG projects, including development of their Worldpay payment integration.

Jan 2013 – Jun 2013  
A start-up looking to use the new browser front-end technologies; Java and JavaScript, node, AngularJS.

Architect, e2x Limited, 2012 – Dec 2012  
Building eCommerce site with Java & RoadRunner — e2x's/Oracle-approved ATG accelerator.

Senior Developer, Singletrack Systems, Mar 2012 – Jul 2012  
Development on a Sales and Tracking system for Capital Markets. Implemented in Salesforce and Ruby (Rails on Heroku), dynamic frontend through jQuery.

Architect, LEGO Group thru e2x Ltd, Jan 2010 – Jul 2011  
Winner of Oracle ATG's Implementation of the Year.  
I took the project from a bare-bones prototype, to rollout and into support and the next phase of development. The project successfully delivered at the estimated time, and was able to handle the heavy loads of Cyber Monday.   
Architecture: Specified the deployment design, maintenance strategy, and on-going support processes. Principally on Java and ATG 9.1, working with LEGO and third parties on 50+ integration points.  
Team leading: running the development process (Extreme Programming), team organisation, training, recruitment, detailed planning and tracking. The 18 developers were spread over four countries.  
Internationalisation used ATG’s MIM module, with all content authored via ATG’s Merchandising module with personalisation. I designed the content managed process, and personalisation set-up, using Merchandising with custom extensions ensuring that the content authors and product life cycle, which were important drivers in moving to ATG.

e2x Ltd, 2008 – Jul 2011  
Java and ATG, with an eye on internationalisation.  
Development, pitches, training, project management and team leading. Numerous projects.

Javelin Group Ltd, Mar 2007 – Mar 2008  
Team Lead in Java with Spring and JSF+MyFaces on Hybris ecommerce platform, for Norgren.

Royal Mail Group, Sep 2006 – Feb 2007  
Architect at the Royal Mail Group, Java and ATG Dynamo.

Practiv, New Zealand, Jul 2005 – Jul 2006  
Senior Programmer, EJBs in IBM WebSphere, Spring, Struts, and Hibernate.  
System to support Independent Financial Advisors (IFAs).

Practive UK, Feb 2005 – Jul 2006  
Senior Programmer in Java and ATG for Friends Provident, with Interwoven and Teamsite.

Newark InOne, Premier Farnell, Jun 2004 – Oct 2004  
Integration of Vertex O Series into four localised ATG Dynamo sites, Java.

Javelin Group, Aug 2003 – Nov 2003  
Developer Java and ATG Dynamo, Backoffice Systems for Screwfix.com.

e2x Ltd, Jun 2003 – Jul 2003  
Product idea start-up, Java.

Lastminute.com, Aug 2002 – May 2003  
Java, Website Development and backend feeds.

Various Short Contracts, Feb 2002 – Jul 2002  
General Motors - I was called in by developers at Modem Media Ltd to sort out problems with project set-up, and help blitz outstanding bugs. The site is a Dynamo 4.5 installation.  
Application Service Provider start-up - Provided security advice and development for a new internet start-up.  
Natural History Museum and 24 Hour Museum – Mission Explore - on-line game written in Perl, generating DHTML and JavaScript pages, with Java applets.

Philips’ website, Aug 2001 – Jan 2002  
Technical lead on incorporating Norelco and Walita brands into the platform. Java and ATG.

IconMedialab, May 1999 – Sep 2000  
Dot.com consultancy, projects in Java, VB.NET, ATG and various platforms.

Cognitive Applications Ltd, Sep 1995 – Jun 1998  
Senior Programmer, C/C++, Java, Perl, web: museums and multi-media systems, including for Microsoft.

Parallax Solutions Ltd, Oct 1993 – Sep 1995  
C++ development and project development for Rover/Land Rover sales.

First in Computer Science (BSc) in 1993 from University of Brighton.

See LinkedIn for full details: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/piran/>