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ABOUT

My name is Plamen Kolev and I specialize in web application development, system automation, and software deployment. I have over 3 years of experience working in world-leading companies as a Software Engineer.

I am a strong team player and like taking initiative and ownership of my work. I have experience with established technologies such as *Enterprise Java*, *Perl*, *Ruby*, *Bash*, *Linux* and *MYSQL* databases.

My experience with new and emerging technologies is working with *Docker*, *Hazelcast*; in-memory data grid, *Amazon Web Services*, *React* and *NodeJS*. In my professional experience, I have used established software engineering patterns to deliver high quality, reliable, and robust software.

I have developed software using *Scrum* and *Agile* methodologies such as pairing and mobbing to create high-quality, mature software. I also have experience doing *Test-Driven Development*.

Linux is an important part of my developer toolbox and I can use the build-in tools to efficiently automate and speed up developer tasks.

I have strong grasp of advanced *Git* version control features and can utilise them to effectively collaborate in a team.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Software Engineer, BookingGo

November 2018 - Present

Worked on the Landing Pages team in a large scale replatforming project that managed to increase the scalability, performance, accessibility and development speed of the platform.

As part of the team, I was responsible for putting every airport page (over 10 000 pages) onto the new platform, enabling over 1 000 customers per day to have an improved experience.

I have also worked on improving the platform's reliability, alerting and monitoring by implementing *Prometheus* metrics and *Jaeger* Tracing into our solution.

My experience at Booking has given me the opportunity to write full-stack software solutions by using *NodeJs* *Javascript* framework and React.

Software Engineer, The Hut Group

August 2017 - October 2018

My responsibilities at The Hut Group were to develop their proprietary Warehouse Management Platform that is responsible for shipping thousands of products each day from their warehouses located across the world.

The stack that I worked in was *Java* 8 event-based *microservices* deployed on our *AWS* cluster.

The job was very challenging due to the warehouses operating at full capacity 24 hours every day. I provided support as an on-call engineer, troubleshooting difficult problems during outages and live issues both during work and out of hours.

Due to the complexity of the warehouse software, a lot of time was wasted in manual testing. I identified that we can create an automation tool and as a result, I led an initiative to create a solution for warehouse simulations.

It helped us troubleshoot live issues as well as catch bugs in development. It also led to decreased development cycle time and improved our defect age.

Software Engineer Intern, Intel Corporation

August 2015 - September 2016

Worked on high-performing, Cyber Security project. My responsibilities were to extend the in-house automation framework, which is responsible for ensuring that the Data Loss Prevention and Email threat detection engine cannot be exploited by attackers.

I was responsible for extending the framework, which was written in *Perl*, as well as creating new automation test suits. I would also troubleshoot software bugs by using the *BASH* scripting language and an array of built-in *Linux* command-line tools in a virtualized environment.

At Intel, I was given the task to write a UI automation framework using *Perl* and *Selenium* Web Driver. After the solution was delivered, I created training sessions to teach the testing engineers about the tool.

EDUCATION

BSc. Computer Science, Newcastle University

September 2013 - June 2017

Achieved *First Class Honours* degree in Computer Science with Industrial Placement.

Studied Software Design & Development, Database technologies, Computer Architecture, Parallel computing, Biocomputing, Machine Learning, and Software Modelling.

PROJECTS

Songs of the World

August 2019 - September 2019

Created a web application that allows the user to experience thousands of unique music genres. It uses *Youtube API*, *Python* as the data engine and *React* for the front-end.

Enjoy it here.

Web Platform for Digital Deployment of Virtual Servers

November 2016 - June 2017

I used my experience at Intel to create a platform for secure deployment, management and monitoring of virtual servers as part of BSC final year dissertation.

The platform aimed to provide the same functionality as AWS's *EC2*. Technologies used: *Puppet*, *BASH* shell, *Virtualbox*, *Vagrant*, Ruby and *Ruby On Rails*.

The project is now open-source and can be viewed on my Github page here.

Neven Body Care

5 August - 28 August 2016

Created a PHP website for the Neven brand as part of a case study for creating web platforms. The project aimed to create an interactive system for featuring natural care products.

Secure Coding Presentation

5 May 2016

As part of Intel involved initiative, I volunteered to give a presentation to Lester College about writing secure code.

The talk was about how programmer bugs can introduce security threat vectors, and how to use best practices to mitigate exploits.

SpendWell, Lloyds Banking Application

31 October 2014

As part of University team project developed and designed a solution that aimed to help young adults budget better. The client was the British Bank Lloyds.

I was responsible for creating the web architecture, the back-end models as well as providing the authentication layer. The *API* was written in Python *Django* and the consumer was an *Android* application.

HackNE Hackathon, Newcastle University

31 October 2014

Co-organized a hackathon in *Newcastle University*, United Kingdom.

The event was sponsored by Major League Hacking, the largest organisation for hackathons in Europe.

I created the promotional website for the event, as well as print materials, leaflets, flyers and posters.

Lights Automation, PAConsulting

12 February 2014

Developed an environmentally friendly solution with the *Raspberry Pi* for the London based consultancy PAConsulting as part of a competition. Our design utilised hardware relays and sensors to control the lights of a building depending on the time of day and brightness.