About the authors

Chris Farrell

Chris has over 20 years of development experience, and has spent the last seven as a .NET consultant and trainer. For the last three years, his focus has shifted to application performance assurance, and the use of tools to identify performance problems in complex .NET applications. Working with many of the world's largest corporations, he has helped development teams find and fix performance, stability, and scalability problems with an emphasis on training developers to find problems independently in the future.

In 2009, after working at Compuware as a consultant for two years, Chris joined the independent consultancy, CodeAssure UK (WWW.CODEASSURE.CO.UK) as their lead performance consultant.

Chris has also branched out into mobile app development and consultancy with Xivuh Ltd (WWW.XIVUH.COM) focusing on Apple's iOS on iPhone and iPad.

When not analyzing underperforming websites or writing iPhone apps, Chris loves to spend time with his wife and young son swimming, bike riding, and playing tennis. His dream is to encourage his son to play tennis to a standard good enough to reach a Wimbledon final, although a semi would be fine.

Acknowledgements

I have to start by acknowledging Microsoft's masterpiece, .NET, because I believe it changed for the better how apps were written. Their development of the framework has consistently improved and enhanced the development experience ever since.

I also want to thank the countless developers, load test teams and system admins I have worked with over the last few years. Working under enormous pressure, we always got the job done, through their dedication and hard work. I learn something new from every engagement and, hopefully, pass on a lot of information in the process.

I guess it's from these engagements that I have learnt how software is actually developed and tested out in the real world. That has helped me understand the more common pitfalls and misunderstandings.

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Chris Farrell

Nick Harrison

Nick is a software architect who has worked with the .NET framework since its original release. His interests are varied and span much of the breadth of the framework itself. On most days, you can find him trying to find a balance between his technical curiosity and his family/personal life.

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Nick Harrison

About the Technical Reviewer

Paul Hennessey is a freelance software developer based in Bath, UK. He is an MCPD, with a B.Sc. (1st Class Hons.) and M.Sc. in Computer Science. He has a particular interest in the use of agile technologies and a domain-driven approach to web application development.

He spent most of his twenties in a doomed but highly enjoyable bid for fame and fortune in the music business. Sadly, a lot of memories from this period are a little blurred.

When he came to his senses he moved into software, and spent nine years with the leading software engineering company, Praxis, working on embedded safety-critical systems. Sadly, very few memories from this period are blurred.

He now spends his time building web applications for clients including Lloyds Banking Group, South Gloucestershire Council, and the NHS. He is also an active member of the local .NET development community.