



CAREER PROFILE

Graduated from Loughborough University in 1994 with a 1st class honours degree in Electrical & Electronic engineering. Started working within an embedded environment developing against stringent ISO directives. Following the dot-com boom I progressed into developing messaging and internet applications in PHP4, Java and .NET C#. Started own company with a colleague after working at Reuters in 2003 supplying bespoke CMS systems for antiques trade and now currently Tech Leading at CompareTheMarket



SKILLS & PROFICIENCY

Micro-services

4 years

Team leading

5 years

Pairing / Mobbing

12 years

TDD / Outside-in testing

12 years

Agile

10 years

Cloud

5 years

.NET Core

2 years

Node

5 years

ReST / HATEOAS

5 years

MVC

10 years

.Net framework

15 years

MongoDB

5 years

SQL Server / MySQL

15 years

AngularJs / knockout.Js

4 years

PHP

7 years



EXPERIENCES

Applications Architect

CompareTheMarket.com

2018 - present

Responsible for the architectural vision for the new Pricing Platform at CompareTheMarket. Focused on developing scalability, stability and security for the system.

Moving the platform over to a micro-service architecture allowing fast auto-scaling, development whilst monitoring and reducing AWS costs accordingly.

Responsible for several working groups looking into governance of our microservices and how we consume, document and test these at both an integration level and contract level.

Leadership and influencing skills required to bring the teams on the journey agreed at technical leadership level alongside.

Mentoring of my Technical Leads in behaviours, leadership and career progression and forming and delegating career progression plans for each individual

Tech Lead

CompareTheMarket.com

2016 - 2018

Leading a team which developed, maintain and increase performance of the new quoting platform which can supported 1000's of transactions a second. Hosted in AWS and using distributed micro services across RabbitMQ, the platform is fully scalable and uses MongoDB to store data sent to the platform. REST based services using HATEOS to allow customer journeys to communicate with the aggregated providers to get quotes for risks sent to the system.

Responsible for mentoring developers across the department and designing personal development plans for each individual as well as providing technical leadership in my team. Working closely with the architects it is my responsibility for the technical solutions to the architect vision.

Responsible for driving technical excellence and security/immunisation across the CompareTheMarket infrastructure.

Consultant

CompareTheMarket.com

2013 - 2016

SnapToQuote - (Energy)

Brought in to help develop and maintain the new SnapToQuote energy offering allowing customers to send their bills directly to the system as a photo. Administration web interface for users to enter bill data, apple app used by customer to capture bill. Small team that brought the offering in under 3 months, giving return on investment in minimal time.

Motor

Writing new indicative quote process that allows us to drive users to a page indicating their policies are due for expiry and a calculation is pre initialised. Using KnockoutJS for front end UI on a single SPA application.

Quoting platform

Micro-services developed to remove legacy based systems that had evolved to hold large technical debt and become single points of failures. Took part in major inception and showcases on how the new system would be designed and how journeys would interface to this.

Consultant

EasyJet

2012 - 2013

Joined a team as part of allocated seating roll-out (hosted off site in azure), developing the functionality to allow customers to choose seats on the main easyjet.com website, one of the top revenue generating sites in the UK.

- Developed Azure ServiceBus solution for 3rd party provider to access Restful API to pass pluscard data for real-time validation. Required to allow validation of card at booking time
- Developed nServiceBus host to retrieve message of Azure ServiceBus queue.
- Powershell scripts running .NET deployment for setting up ACS on Azure pluscard ServiceBus instance.
- Implemented PHP client for 3rd party to access windows Azure ServiceBus
- MVC3 Razor implemented on Seating web site using knockoutjs to handle UI events

Consultant

Tesco Entertainment

2011 - 2012

Part of a team developing new functionality on the www.tescoentertainment.com website and supporting applications. Using Agile (SCRUM) to plan and present on bi-weekly sprints.

- Developed concept Android application supporting purchase and download of MP3 tracks within time and budget allowed.
- Maintained and developed new functionality on the Endeca search service used by the main entertainment site.
- Part of team developing the price cross out (was/now/save) for all 400,000 products and saw successful implementation to live.
- Implemented new MVC areas for mobile implementation of site
- Automation and unit testing using Selenium, specflow, moq

Consultant

Cambridge University (OCR)

2008 - 2011

Part of a team developing new functionality for the main OCR Examination portal for Cambridge University. A site that supports a base of 35,000 different centres across the world managing their candidate entries and results through one site. Developed under Agile (SCRUM) split into bi-weekly sprints and presentations using new MVC design pattern.

- Lead developer to upgrade existing disconnected entry sites into one site where users can manage their GCSE and Vocational Qualification data in one area saving users time when entering candidate entries.
- Responsible for bringing Code review and new unit testing methods into the department
- Lead developer of project to move SOA to run on single tier server load balanced across 4 machines.
- Developing process of silent deploys removing site downtime in many cases
- Progressive enhancements implemented using jquery/jquery UI/form plugin for a better user experience with fail back support for browsers that do not support javascript
- Team city administrator
- SQL scripting writing procedures across 3 disconnected databases

Director

TouchScreenData Ltd

2003 - 2008

Formed company developing online management systems predominately written in C# .NET 2.0/3.5 but small scale site developed in LAMP

- Developed an sold bespoke online management CMS and marketing system to blue chip antique dealers in London and New York
- Online touch-screen concierge system developed and installed into prime location apartment block in London allowing customers to manage their personal and professional lives.
- Online IT helpdesk, contact and stock management system developed for London based IT company. Auto billing and emailing via supporting windows services and auto update to Quickbooks accounts package for invoices sent and paid
- Interfaces developed for many payment gateways
- LAMP development for small scale websites using PHP 4 and MySQL. Developed many web services using nusoap including successful football league management portal

Senior Developer

Thomson Reuters

2000 - 2003

Senior developer in 12 man team within the Mobile Development department developing mobile applications and desktop web portals to configure them.

- PHP 4.0 financial management WAP site developed for handheld devices, development also included administration site reporting statistics on searches, news opened, companies viewed
- NET mobile financial management application developed with desktop management interface to manage stock lists, watch lists, news, SMS alerts and forex information
- Java J2EE SMS aggregation engine developed against Tib/Rendezvous messaging platform, the engine was used for pilot World cup SMS platform allowing users to sign up for goal alerts in World cup 2002
- OTA (Over the air) messaging for auto configuring handsets to access mobile applications. OTA initiated by customer from Reuters Terminal portal.
- Tibco Rendezvous messaging utilised as the messaging bus



PROJECTS

Symbolic & Chase

Website and administration for <http://www.symbolicchase.com> as part of running TouchScreendata Ltd. A bespoke CMS system tailored for the antiques and Jewellery trade allowing. Developed in .NET it allows administration of items, documentation generation for Expo's and export/import. SQL server used as storage using lIbIgen as O/r Mapper. Particularly looking at VAT, excise duties and quality of imagery fo PDF's.

Ipad application developed allowing user to browse stock and request more info

- Atom feed created on client site to expose stock information as a feed.
- Pre-loaded images on start-up much like a magazine, cached into a sqLite database.
- Sweep functionality to browse stock by stock
- Written in Monotouch with MonoDevelop

Betfair

Create a windows application allowing user to make bets on the betfair trading platform

- Written in .NET c# with WPF front end
- Multi-threaded betting application for multiple markets
- Plug-in algorithms to allow the user to select the algorithm to use for the market data
- WCF Service layer as proxy to the Betfair platform
- SQL Server used to store all get history statistical data on market selection.



Richard Parkins

Tech Lead

✉ rgparkins@hotmail.co.uk

☎ 07764 684815

🌐 rgparkins.co.uk

🌐 [linkedin.com/](https://www.linkedin.com/)

🐙 github.com/rgparkins

🐦 [@rgparkins](https://twitter.com/rgparkins)

📖 medium.com/@rgparkins

EDUCATION

BEng Electrical & Electronic Eng

Loughborough University
1990 - 1994

LANGUAGES

English (Native)

Portuguese (Brazil)
(Conversational)

INTERESTS

Football

Tennis

Fishing