

Resume for Richard John NEISH

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Skills

Programming Languages:

Java (8+ years), SQL (9+ years), Flex/ActionScript (1 year), Perl (9 years), UNIX shell script (11 years), C/C++ (5 years), Visual Basic (5 years), TCL (1 year), PHP (2 years), Expect (1 year)

Operating Systems: GNU/Linux Ubuntu/Red Hat/SuSE (8 years), Sun Solaris/SunOS (14 years), SCO OpenServer (4 years), Microsoft Windows 7/Vista/XP/2000/NT (10 years), Cisco IOS (3 years)

Tools / Applications: JBoss / Tomcat (5 years), Jakarta Velocity (4 years), Subversion (4 years), CVS (8 years), Maven (2 years), Ant (3 years), Oracle (7 years), Sybase (4 years), Eclipse (6 years)

Networking infrastructure tools:

Apache HTTPD (5 years), Lighttpd (2 years), OpenLDAP (2 years), PostFix (2 years), Sendmail (5 years), Samba (5+ years), Snort IDS (2 years), Tripwire IDS (4 years), BIND DNS (6+years), IPTables (2 years), IP Filter (2 years), WireShark(3 years)

Development technologies:

JDBC (6 years), XML (4 years), XSLT (2 years), LDAP (2 years)

Goals

To identify and apply appropriate technology for solving real-world problems. Buzzwords, hype and marketing aside, to select or develop systems based on the needs of the business and the technical merits of the solution.

Experience

September 2006 – present

Technical Consultant,

Rule Financial,
London, UK

Provide bespoke software development to top-tier investment banking and financial services firms in London. Work as a developer with a team of consultants on developing, testing and deploying systems for our clients. Major projects included:

- Several projects to improve and extend Java Swing interfaces to trading systems for top-tier investment banks.
- Work on a trading workflow hub using Adobe Flex front-end and Java backend.
- Documented and maintained a complex system of Perl, Unix shell scripting and SQL scripts for a stock lending system.

November 2004 – August 2006

Programmer,

Credit Suisse,
London, UK

Document and maintain large Sybase database containing financial product static and pricing data. The system connects to over two dozen external and internal data feeds and acts as a primary data source for other systems throughout the bank. Data transfer methods include FTP downloads, HTTP transfers, direct database connections and vendor proprietary network transfer methods. Data formats include fixed

length records, delimited records, XML and other vendor specific formats. All data is parsed and loaded into a globally replicated Sybase database using a complex set of Perl and UNIX shell scripts and Sybase stored procedures.

Key developer on the “Odin” project. This was a strategic effort to integrate a large third-party reference data application into the existing architecture. My role involved analysing the impact of this system on the existing data loaders, designing and developing changes as required. Worked closely with external software supplier to identify and correct bugs, documented configuration and operations procedure and provided training to in-house Production Support staff. Designed and ran a suite of QA test cases to satisfy the application’s non-functional requirements and provided ongoing support to the analysts and QA team during application testing, UAT and deployment. Identified and documented defects and participated in defect review cycle with external vendor to identify root causes, workarounds and final solutions.

January 2004 – September 2004

Systems Manager,
Xbridge Limited,
London, UK

Administer internal IT infrastructure including Linux file, email and application servers, Solaris database and application servers and other related network infrastructure. Also worked closely with external hosting providers to manage change requests and resolve technical issues. Supported a team of ten developers and fifteen business users by providing technical analysis on new projects and providing day-to-day operational support. During my tenure at Xbridge I successfully transitioned to a new office location, including provisioning of new servers and migration of data including LDAP user account information and Samba file storage. Worked on rollout of new network infrastructure, replacing dumb switches and proprietary firewall with Cisco Layer 2 and Layer 3 switches and a PIX firewall and VPN solution. I was also responsible for Oracle 9 DBA tasks including data import/export database creation and scaling.

September 2002 – January 2004

UNIX Technical Support,
Cisco Systems,
Reading, UK

Monitor and administer Solaris-based network monitoring equipment for ISPs and large enterprises throughout Europe, the Middle East and Africa. Remotely manage dozens of servers. Tasks include configuring network settings, installing and upgrading software, installing security patches and configuring network services including IP Filter firewalls, SSH, NFS and Samba. Support Cisco Advanced Services engineers by phone, email and site visits as needed. Participate in bug review process and document technical processes.

September 1999 - June 2002

Partner and Senior Developer,
RMP & Associates,
Kingston, Jamaica

As a director for this small consulting and systems development firm, worked in a wide variety of roles including systems design and implementation, programming, network optimisation and security and database and network administration. Projects completed include:

- Remotely administer internet server systems, including a Linux web server serving over 200GB of traffic per month and a web-based email system with 6000+users. Routinely monitor security mailing lists including BugTraq, SecurityFocus and CERT for potential exploitable weaknesses and apply patches or workarounds as needed.
- Designed and implemented a complex payroll system. The system is completely data-driven, storing payroll formulae as first-class data items, allowing the system to be tailored to any system of deductions

or taxes. The system is implemented in Java2 with an Informix backend and is cross platform portable to Microsoft Windows 2000 and Red Hat Linux 7 with no code changes. Initial customer has a monthly payroll of 2000+ employees.

- WAN Network security and optimization for a Jamaican bank comprising 28 branch offices and 2 data centres connected by a TCP/IP network running over leased line. Collaborated with bank IT staff on system documentation and security and reported on same to senior management. Focussed on core banking application performance and managibility as well as network monitoring and documentation.
- Designed and implemented a Perl-based CGI system for online publishing for a large Jamaican newspaper. Migrated an existing offline system to a database-backed, template-driven publishing system, including mass email publishing and archive searching. System design includes a staging server on the local Intranet with updates pushed out to the production web server when complete. The complete production process, from Quark files to dynamic web pages can be done remotely through a web interface.
- Designed and developed front-end system for interfacing with Informix 4GL legacy code. Current interfaces include an Interactive Voice Response system, a Java servlet-based web application and an Informix 4GL application running on Unix terminals. The core interfaces are well documented and language independent, allowing integration with additional systems as needed.
- Maintained core development and production servers for a team of developers. Services maintained included email (Sendmail/QPopper/Pop-Before-SMTP), NAT / port forwarding (IP Tables) and file and printer sharing (Samba).

September - December 2000 and January - May 2002

Lecturer,

Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, University of the West Indies,
Kingston, Jamaica

Developed and presented a course entitled "Advanced Operating Systems". This course formed one component of the universities MSc Programme in Computer Science.

September 1997 - August 1999

UNIX Systems Administrator,

Digital Systems Processing / Image Formation and Processing groups,
University of Illinois, USA.

Maintained a laboratory and network comprised of 50+ UNIX workstations and servers. Systems included Solaris, SunOS and HP/UX servers and workstations in addition to PC and Macintosh workstations and printers, connected by an Ethernet running TCP/IP and AppleTalk. Responsible for installing and configuring software packages and services, including HTTPD, NIS, NFS, TeX, the X Window System, Matlab, and others.

June 1998 - August 1998

Data Management Specialist,

Business Link LCP,
London, England

Transitioned a large database application from Novell Netware to Windows NT and upgraded from Oracle 5 to Oracle 7. Rolled out upgraded system to 100+ clients in three offices, with zero lost work or data. Converted all reports and queries to new system and set up training facilities for staff.

May 1995 - January 1997

Senior Programmer,
Advanced Integrated Systems,
Kingston, Jamaica

Major projects completed include a proposed National Identification Card system for the Government of Jamaica, a general purpose ID production system and a printing subsystem for the Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages, Government of Jamaica. I developed front ends for Informix and SQL Server databases, in Visual Basic and using HTML and CGI scripts.

May-June 1995 and May-June 1996

Lecturer,
Department of Management Studies,
University of the West Indies,
Kingston, Jamaica

I developed and presented a 4 week course entitled Introduction to Windows Programming using Visual Basic. The course was presented as part of the University's C-MIS programme.

Education

September 1997 - August 1999
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign,
Urbana, Illinois, USA
Completed MSc in Computer Science August 1999

September 1992 - June 1995
University of the West Indies, Mona Campus,
Kingston, Jamaica
Completed BSc in Computer Science and Electronics June 1995

September 1985 - June 1992
Campion College High School
Kingston, Jamaica
Completed 9 'O' Levels July 1990, 4 'A' Levels July 1992

Professional memberships

Association of Computing Machinery (ACM) Member since 1999

Hobbies

Sailing, Hiking, Running, Ultimate Frisbee, Flying, Rollerblading