

Consultant Profile **Simplicity** *itself*



David Dawson

technical architect and designer;
system integrator and troubleshooter

Brief	David is a technical architect, development process expert and highly productive software developer on the JVM. He implements automation, gives mentoring and delivers process improvement.
Education	BSc (Hons) - 2:1, Software Development, University of Huddersfield
Location	Manchester, UK (North West England)
Qualifications	BSc (Upper Second class) Honours degree, Software Development, University of Huddersfield.

Technical Overview

Skills	Extensive experience in all versions of Java from 1.3 to 7.
Java:	Standard, Enterprise and Mobile editions. A particular emphasis on multi threading, monitoring and high performance server development.
Training:	Delivering Core Groovy/ Grails in 2013 for VMware.
Spring Framework:	Core, Data access, Aspect Orientated Programming, MVC, Web Services, Web Flow, Integration, Groovy, Grails Integration.
Persistence:	JDBC, Hibernate, JPA, PostgreSQL, MySQL, Oracle, MongoDB, Cassandra
Development tools:	Eclipse, Maven, Gradle, Ant, JIRA, Bamboo, IntelliJ IDEA, Git, Subversion, CVS, Junit.
Testing:	Test driven development Junit HttpUnit, Jmeter, Spock, Geb, Hamcrest, Mockito
Operating systems:	Solaris, Linux (Ubuntu, Red hat/ centos), Windows, Mac OS X
Servers:	Tomcat, Jetty, WebLogic, WebSphere
Domain:	Utilities, Banking, Financial, Retail, Government, Virtualisation/ Cloud.
Contributions:	Grails plugins/ core. Spock plugins.

Employment History

July 2012 to Current

VMWare

Designed and developed premium Platform as a Service cloud offering that forms the core of an important customer of VMWare, using Grails, the VMware vFabric stack, Chef, Spock and Vagrant. I designed and developed an advanced Infrastructure as Code build system that allows repeatable building of virtual infrastructure in a test driven manner, performing all test assertions against the final infrastructure as part of the deployment process. Technical base of the system is in Spock, with a custom DSL, which I designed and developed, overlaying Geb, Jclouds, Chef and Vagrant to enable rapid insertion of features into the VM cluster.

Also, I deliver Core Groovy/ Grails training courses in the UK for VMWare.

Dec 2011 to July 2012

ShoutBack LLC (Cleveland, US)

Working remotely with a small team in the UK, which I sourced and managed, I developed a heavily loaded application using Grails, MongoDB for a white label SaaS product. Developed open source tomcat session manager backed onto MongoDB for this project.

In order to enable delivering rapid application updates, matching regulatory changes and fixing issues at speed, I developed a continuous delivery pipeline using Jenkins/ Git to automate the delivery of changes, including a full battery of tests, within only a push button approval in Github being required.

Jan 2010 to Dec 2012

UBS Investment Bank Ltd

Working in a large scale Scrum environment of up to 10 concurrent teams, both on and offshore. I technically owned a large scale GWT/ Grails Gui, and managed the integration of it with the core messaging/ event system that makes up the clearing and settlement engine. Working with the UBS product owners and Technical leads, I defined coding standards and patterns for the teams to use in the codebase, provided architectures, mentoring in advanced Groovy/ Grails. I provided regular code reviews for the offshore teams continuous technical guidance.

Introduced and implemented advanced Groovy/ Grails plugin based architecture, data access security layer using groovy Metaclass interception and AST modifications for higher performance and superior IDE integration.

Jan 2010 to Current

OpenCredo Ltd

Consultancy. I frequently work for OpenCredo either directly or for one of their clients.

Developed CloudFoundry/ Cassandra integration, other internal projects using Grails, Spring and Ruby. I have created standardised processes for support, continuous integration and delivery.

October 2009 to December 09

Cake Solutions Ltd

Developed a large site based on a Cake CMS for a large central government agency. Using Lucene, Freemarker, Spring Core, Spring MVC/ Webflow, Acegi, Hibernate, JQuery and Git. Cake use scrum as their project methodology and apply it rigorously.

May 2009 to October 2009**Stanley Betting International**

Designed and developed a high volume, near real time intelligent betting odds messaging system, based on Grails driving 15000 display screens. Front end built using firefox browsers on thin clients that download a Javascript bundle and start long poll (comet) requests to a Jetty server. Server is clustered (for failover and load), using Terracotta for cluster communication. Highest client response time for a short poll with 10k concurrent active clients is <10ms. Also designed and developed a large Grails Rich UI application that monitors (via JMX) the clusters, provides drag and drop wysiwig page design tool and allows the dozen studio staff to control screen content.

March 2008 to May 2009**Findel Education Ltd**

Designed and developed web applications for internal use; and a replacement system for the Findel e-commerce websites. The internal apps have been based on Grails(Spring/ Hibernate), and deployed on Tomcat/ MySql. They provide data cleansing/ transformations, build/ deploy management and some system management/ reporting (JMX based). The replacement e-commerce application was in development for 3 months, and was moving into production when I left the company. It is based on Grails (Spring/ Hibernate), Compass/ Lucene and Shiro and has a deployment platform of Jetty paired with Terracotta; hooked into SAP, internal CRM and product databases. Introduced and used scrum/ agile methods.

February 2007 to March 2008**2ergo Ltd**

Worked on a bespoke distributed application that processes in excess of 2 million messages per day. Primary work done on JMS, JMX, Web based Mobile Billing (PayForIt), SMPP. 2ergo is a mobile messaging aggregator, with links into all the major networks in the UK and many others around the world. Most network integrations are via HTTP REST or Soap WebServices. Created a JMX layer within the core system. This intelligently decides the level of management that is required for the component. Developed 2 clients for this layer, a Grails based web client and a Swing/ Swingx based client, both allowing management of the entire distributed application from a single graphical console.

February 2006 to February 2007**Findel Education Limited**

Developed Websphere Commerce base e-commerce sites, and integrated with the SIMS school finance system. Implemented fully automated test/ deploy systems.

September 2004 to February 2006**Formfill Ltd/ Utilisoft**

Web development in Struts 1.x. Develop high performance file processing for message endpoints in the Gas/ Electric/ Water trading industry.

September 2003 - July 2004**Huddersfield University, West Yorks**

Degree, network simulations, algorithm design etc.

September 2002 to September 2003**Insevo Inc, San Francisco**

Software Development within QA Team

University Placement year. Constructed a fully automated build, test, deploy system.

September 2000 to July 2002**Huddersfield University, West Yorks**

Software Development Degree

Degree. Dynamic languages, client server etc.