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Summary of experience and key skills

- Extensive experience in the design & build of Java-based web content delivery solutions, layered upon an enterprise strength content management system ([Alterian CME](#)). Also some experience working on eCommerce implementations based upon IBM Websphere Commerce.
- Technical skills are organized here according to frequency of use:

Every day	Java, JSP, Servlet, JSTL, Spring MVC, Tiles, Custom tags, Windows, Linux, SVN, Eclipse, Alterian CME
Less frequently	Javascript, jQuery, Dojo, Ajax, CSS, HTML, Maven, Git, Apache, Tomcat, Websphere, Weblogic, XSD, XML, XSLT, JAXB, RESTful and SOAP web services, Quartz, Bash scripting, CVS, Amazon Cloud services
As needed	Ant, Ruby, Perl
For specific projects	JDBC, JMS, Hibernate, Ibatis, Lucene, Struts
Background reading	TDD, Groovy, MongoDB, EJB, Ruby on Rails, JSF
First language	C

- Other skills required include basic project management, ie client management, project definition, estimation, monitoring and reporting.
- Extensive experience working for software vendors in client-facing roles, including: consultancy, bespoke software development, pre/post sales support, training, and sales.

Dec 13 - Apr 14 **Consultant**

Slepe Web Solutions Ltd, St. Ives, Cambs

Employment History

- Contracted through my own company to SDL, I worked on the Scottish Power (SP) website, www.scottishpower.co.uk, building online services. The web application at SP accessed a middle tier through REST services, which in turn interacted with a SAP database containing customer information. The web front end was an interesting integration between Alterian CMS and Spring Webflow. The CMS provided content authors with a means to define and manage their own online forms, allowing them to update text content, change field ordering or field types, choose different css styles, etc. These form definitions were then rendered by JSPs using Spring tags, providing view states for the (Spring) webflows.
- My first task was to extend the existing functionality to provide tailored online forms for SME (small business) users. This included forms to display account information, capture meter readings, change direct debit details, etc.
- The second task was to provide search functionality for Tariff Information Labels. All energy providers had been instructed by the regulators to offer this functionality before the end of March, otherwise they could expect significant penalties.

Oct 12 - Sep 13	Consultant	Slepe Web Solutions Ltd, St. Ives, Cambs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> During this period, I was contracted to SDL, who acquired Alterian in 2012. These contracts placed me in the project team responsible for delivering an upgraded website platform for Jaguar Landrover's worldwide markets (www.jaguar.co.uk). This new platform was based around a responsive design, meaning that desktop, tablet and mobile devices could be served with the same html markup (and css/javascript) and yet still produce appropriate layouts for each device. The web application at the back end of this solution was built on the Spring MVC framework, utilising Ehcache for optimised performance. The first phase of the project utilised the Alterian CMS for content management, to deliver the new design to the UK and Chinese markets, and I was part of the team that updated the back-end code to suit. In this second phase, the CMS was being changed to Tridion (an SDL product), requiring further back-end changes. The members of the project team all worked remotely, and so daily scrums were held to manage the development process (using Google hangouts). 		
Jun 11 - Sep 12	Development and Support Consultant	Salmon Ltd, St. Ives, Cambs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Salmon designed, developed and supported eCommerce websites built upon an IBM Websphere Commerce platform. There major clients included Boots, Halfords and Argos, to name a few. All the java and web skills I had accumulated were required for this role. The clients/websites I worked with included Lloyds Pharmacy, Pets at Home, Morrisons Wine, and more, working on both versions 6 and 7 of the IBM Commerce platform. My role was to deliver relatively small enhancements to these sites, with projects typically ranging from 3 to 15 days. As an example, one of my tasks was on the Morrisons Wine project, where I had to modify various parts of the system to protect against under-18 purchases. This affected both the registration and checkout processes. Daily scrums were held to manage the development. 		
Sep 00 - Jun 11	Principal Consultant	Alterian (ex. Mediasurface), Home-based
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> During this period I worked as Principal Consultant for Alterian, whose portfolio of products and services included an enterprise web content management solutions (CMS). The Alterian CME (aka Morello/Mediasurface) is a configurable off-the-shelf CMS product that provides a business-friendly means to create and update content. The delivery of that content to various channels requires bespoke Java software, and that it what I and people in my team delivered. No two projects were ever the same - there were always new challenges to face, and new solutions to develop. We analysed business requirements, designed and documented server-side solutions, and then proceeded to build them using Java, Servlets and JSP, pulling content from the CMS repository using the extensive Alterian Java API. The graphical design was produced by a design agency, who provided sufficient examples of HTML templates, and the CSS and Javascript required to support them. Understanding all these client-side technologies was important in order to be able to create and maintain JSP templates. We often had to integrate with other systems, and so we would use SOAP or Restful web services to interface to 3rd party systems. In reverse date order, here are many of the sites I have worked on, in most cases from the analysis phase up to the build and launch phases: 		

- Jaguar Landrover (<http://www.jaguar.com/gb/en/#/> - now superceded, <http://www.landrover.com/gb/en/lr/> - still running): The Jaguar site broke new ground as every page in the site was delivered through one single Flash movie. The first request for a page downloaded HTML defining the main movie; once loaded, the movie would make calls for Restful services that provided XML to define both page layouts and content fragments. For browsers that were unable to play Flash movies (eg iPad), lo-fi HTML responses were provided. All these responses (HTML + XML) were produced by a bespoke web application framework that I designed and built.

The Landrover site borrowed the same underlying framework, but used a traditional HTML approach, enhanced by jQuery scripts to provide lightbox effects, tabbed content, video players and image galleries.

There were 3 significant integrations to 3rd party systems: a) a CRM system (Aplicor) using web services, b) a 'build-your-own-Jaguar' system (Connect) using REST services, and c) a dealer locator system (Multimap)

- Foreign and Commonwealth Office (<http://www.fco.gov.uk>): Working in partnership with LogicaCMG, and acting as Technical Lead, this project delivered 200+ sites, and launched in March 2008. The key feature of this project was to be able to deliver large volumes of up-to-date content that was no more than 1 minute old. This was achieved using a custom data cacheing solution.
- SimplyHealth: This project was quite different to the rest. The client required an integration between Mediasurface and ATG Dynamo. Content from the Mediasurface repository had to be synchronised with the ATG database. SimplyHealth were responsible for building the ATG web application, and we were responsible for building the synchronisation software. This comprised a Listener application that responded to content change events, and propagated these to the ATG tables. At the same time, JMS messages containing the same basic information were broadcast to a JMS server. The data access layer used Hibernate, and everything was wired together using Spring.
- Department for Transport (<http://www.dft.gov.uk>): This site launched on January 2007 after a 7 month design and build. The interesting feature of this site was the different methods of content navigation. In addition to being able to navigate the hierarchical structure of content, there was a filtering mechanism which guided users towards their area of interest (similar to faceted searching).

In addition, we provided bespoke 'Communities' functionality to registered users internal users, including a Forum and Commenting functionality.

- Welsh Assembly Government (<http://wales.gov.uk>): In this project, I guided our implementation partners (Siemens) in the solution design, and provided them with a foundation layer of code to support them. The interesting point about this site is its bi-lingual functionality - on any page, you can change language from English to Welsh, and vice versa.

A follow-on project for this client involved the use of JMS to distribute visitor-submitted form data to a server on the government GSi network, from where it could be further distributed using email without compromising government security principles.

- The Home Office (<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk>): Within a relatively short design and build phase, we delivered 18 websites for the Home Office, all with the same general functionality, but different styles (see also <http://www.drugs.gov.uk>). The build team comprised 5 members, and I was responsible for architecting the Mediasurface solution, leading the build team, and interfacing with the client.

- Oxford University Press (<http://www.oup.com/elt/>): I consulted with OUP to design the content architecture and supporting systems to replace their English Language Teaching site. I then joined the project as technical lead, implementing the foundation layer for the application.
- Croydon Council (<http://www.croydon.gov.uk>): This internet site went live in early 2004. It shared content with their intranet site, and was integrated into the CRM system. My role was to design the Mediasurface implementation, kick-start the development process, and lead our partners (CGEY) in the project delivery process.
- Plan International (<http://www.plan-international.org/>): Plan is an international children's charity, with fundraising offices throughout the world, delivering localised content. We re-built their existing Perl-based websites using JSP templates and custom tags, adding important new functionality.
- Mediasurface.com (<http://www.mediasurface.com/>): re-vamped the old Perl-based site to use JSP templates, and the latest version of Mediasurface (4.5). We took the opportunity to deploy a more sophisticated organisation of content, and a new graphical design.
- Other customers I have worked for include Ofcom, Cancer Research UK, Yell, and Carlton Interactive.

Oct 99 - Aug 00	Senior Consultant	Netcentric Systems, Cambridge
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- Netcentric was a small start up company, which developed and marketed a Web Content Management solution, named Lychee.
- Lychee was an application written entirely in Java, that used RMI for client-server interaction. Content was stored in documents which were defined in XML terms. An object database (Objectivity) was used for storage. Web pages were based on templates, which used special markup to indicate where the content should be inserted. The server software operated on both Unix and NT platforms.
- I utilised my wide experience to fill the gap between Development and Sales. My primary role was to provide pre-sales support to the Sales & Marketing Director, and to feed back to Development the views and requirements of the market.
- In addition to that, I was also heavily involved in the specification and delivery of new websites to clients, including www.acpo.police.uk, www.kingsfords.co.uk, and www.buyme100.com. Customer/partner support and training was also handled by myself.

Aug 97 - Feb 99	Account Manager	Smallworld Systems Ltd., Cambridge
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- Responsible for direct sales of Operational Support Systems (equipment & circuit inventory management) to the Telco market within the UK and Ireland. Target £500k.
- Accounts/prospects included NTL, Energis, Lucent, Worldcom and Telewest. Also worked with Utility accounts including East Midlands Electricity, Severn Trent Water, Bord Gais and Electricity Supply Board.

Jan 95 - Jul 97	Business Manager	Cadcentre, Cambridge
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- Responsible for direct and indirect sales of plant design software to India, Iran, Middle East and South Africa. Target £350k
- Signed first ever customer in Iran, OIEC, in a deal worth \$400k. Also achieved first sale in India to Tata Consulting Engineers, value \$80k.
- Activities included setting up and managing indirect sales channels, and organising marketing events.

<i>Jun 90 - Dec 94</i>	<i>Support Consultant</i>	<i>Cadcentre, Cambridge</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided application support for Cadcentre customers throughout the world, especially Europe and the Far East. • Major accounts assigned to me included Electricité de France, Israel Electric Corporation, Mitsubishi Heavy Industries and British Nuclear Fuels. • Support services included installation, training, telephone support, site visits, consultancy and pre-sales support. • Also managed several test programmes, including beta testing of two major software upgrades, and performance scalability testing. 	
<i>1988 - May 90</i>	<i>Consultant</i>	<i>Computervision, Cambridge</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joined newly formed business group, providing consultancy services to Medusa customers. • Services included specification, delivery and management of consultancy projects, conforming to the formal procedures set out by the company. • Undertook a system audit project for a company that was under-utilising Medusa. • Also developed proposals for: a) document management system for a drawing office, b) tool for designing brake pipe bending machines. 	
<i>1985 - 1988</i>	<i>Team Leader</i>	<i>Computervision, Cambridge</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoted to team leader of the support group, comprising 6 engineers. • Allocated responsibilities and project work, monitored progress, co-ordinated activities, developed and maintained office procedures and standards. 	
<i>1983 - 1985</i>	<i>Support Engineer</i>	<i>Computervision, Cambridge</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided a range of after-sales services to Medusa users in the United Kingdom, including installation, training, telephone support, customisation and consultancy. • The customisation activity required good programming and systems integration skills, which were developed on the job. I was responsible for the specification, development and maintenance of 3 applications: a Reinforced Concrete Detailing System, a Structural Steel Detailing System, and a Customer Records Database. • I gained experience on various operating systems, particularly Primos, VMS and SunOS. Programming languages included Fortran and BaCIS2 (a proprietary 4th generation language). 	
<i>1981 - 1983</i>	<i>Research Engineer</i>	<i>BHRA Fluid Engineering, Cranfield</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As a Research Engineer, I undertook a variety of research, experimental and consultancy work, mainly in the field of pressure transients in piping systems. • One of my projects was to prototype a module to a fluid analysis package, in Fortran, to predict transient behaviour in 'bubbly' water. I enjoyed this exposure to computing so much that I decided I wanted to work more closely in that field. 	
<i>1977 - 1981</i>	<i>Design Engineer</i>	<i>Rolls Royce Aero Division, Leavesden</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spent 2 years as a graduate trainee, under the IMechE's Monitored Professional Development Scheme. 	

- The training programme began with a 6 month period in the technical school, learning about machine tools and basic engineering skills. This was followed by various assignments on the shop floor and in the design offices.
 - At the end of my training, I was appointed Senior Technical Engineer, specialising in the design of air-cooled gas turbine blades for helicopter engines.
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Education

- Secondary: Minchenden School, Southgate, London. 6 'O' levels and 3 'A' levels [Maths (A), Further Maths (E), Physics (C)].
- Further: City University, London. BSc Mechanical Engineering (1st).

Job Training

- Systems: Sun Unix, Vax VMS and Primos system administration.
 - Technical: Analytical Trouble Shooting;
Web Application Development with Java (2001);
Building XML Web Services with Java (2009).
 - Management: Team Leadership (2010); Project Management; Principles of Management.
 - Sales: Consultative Selling, Persuasive Proposal Writing, Presentation Skills, Motivating and Managing Distributors and Agents, Negotiation Skills.
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Hobbies and Interests

- I am a member of local tennis club, and regularly participate in competitions.
- I also play golf quite regularly (playing off 18), and I enjoy walking and cycling.
- I have a passion for Indian food, and I enjoy cooking meals at the weekend for the family.