



Jason King

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CONTRIBUTION

[Github](#)

[RubyGems](#)

[StackOverflow](#)

I'm a lifelong autodidactic polyglot software junkie.

I'm passionate about creating value: value to a user, value to a customer, ultimately value to the organizations I work in.

I also love helping others with the technologies that I love, I'm a regular on IRC, StackOverflow, and a few other places around the internet, and I've contributed to and published a handful of Ruby gems.

What I'm Seeking

I want to love *what* I do, *who* I do it with, and *how* I do it.

I want to work with an organization that recognizes and rewards team members based on their value and contribution to the organization's goals, an organization that values logic and reason over popularity, tradition and authority.

I want to work with a team that's empowered with the responsibility, commitment and motivation that comes from sharing the vision of the company and feeling a sense of autonomy and ownership for the products we create.

I want to work with a company where logic and reason trump authority and tradition, a company who operates from first principles to find the best way to do something, rather than just doing things the way they've always been done.

I want a company that understands the value of releasing fewer features earlier, of delivering quality over quantity and the importance of understanding the problem before trying to solve it.

How I Keep Busy

Use the links in the sidebar if this is a soft-copy, but here are the full links if printed:

- GitHub <http://github.com/smathy>
- RubyGems <http://rubygems.org/profiles/43806>
- StackOverflow <http://stackoverflow.com/users/152786/smathy>

Skills Cloud

This is just like a tags cloud. The size represents my experience and the tone represents how recently I've used that skill (the darker, the more recent). You can see an online copy with tooltips [here](#).

Agile AJAX Apache ASP awk bash
backbone.js Batman.js C C++
Capistrano CGI CSS Chef
CoffeeScript CouchDB Cucumber CVS
Delphi Debian Ferret gentoo git haml
heroku HTML HTTP IMAP IIS IRC
Java Jade JavaScript jQuery
JSON lighttpd Linux Mason merb mod_perl
mod_rails MongoDB Mongrel mSQL MSSQL
MySQL nginx node.js NNTP OLE Oracle
OSX Passenger Perl PHP POP3
PostgreSQL prototype Puppet redis
regex REST RMI rspec
Ruby on Rails scss/sass Scala
Scrum sed SMTP SOAP Sphinx SQL
SQLite3 Stylus Sybase TravisCI Test::Unit
Ubuntu vba Visual Basic winapi
Windows WSDL XHTML XML XP
xUnit

Experience

DECEMBER 2015 – PRESENT

Handle IT (my own company)

Various

Getting back into contracting, did some small web projects for various companies, and then a 12 month contract for Global Foundries (through Worry Free Labs) building an internal Rails system the details of which are covered by a confidentiality agreement.

DECEMBER 2014 – NOVEMBER 2015

PeerStreet, Inc. (30 employees, real estate debt marketplace)

Senior Software Engineer

I was the 4th programming hire and so my time with PeerStreet was spent both building out new features in preparation for launch (in November 2015) as well as a lot of clean up and maturing of prototype-quality code.

JUNE 2009 – DECEMBER 2014

International Education Services - t/a "Amco" (500 employees, education, ESL)

VP of Engineering / Lead Software Engineer

When I started with Amco there was an in-house development team that had grown without direction, lots of "copy-and-pasters" rather than programmers, there was a culture of walk-ups (by the Founder/CEO), hacking things in situ (in production) with very loose processes.

I reformed the IT program at Amco, implementing a training and assessment program, replacing those team members who weren't able to demonstrate satisfactory progress, instigating change control, testing, backups, logging, analytics, issue tracking and numerous other processes to bring quality up to an acceptable level.

I leave Amco with a thriving IT group, a culture of innovation, creativity, mentorship and teamwork. Hosting has been migrated to a scalable cloud-based platform, security vulnerabilities have been fixed, error handling and overall code quality massively improved.

JULY 1999 – JUNE 2009

Handle IT (my own company)

Various

I led a small team of mostly remote developers in a bunch of web projects. Initially in Perl, then using Ruby on Rails in later years, and always with JavaScript interspersed. I also provided IT strategy consultation services to a few local companies with Ruby on Rails as my preferred technology.

Also over the years, a number of long term on-site contracts, in reverse order:

A 12 month contract (the second one I did) with Optus, during which I developed an AJAX interface for customer support teams to adjust the Speed Profiles of a customer's ADSL modem by talking to the live SOAP (WSDL) interface on the modem control server.

A 6 month contract for News Digital Media during which I rewrote some very high profile legacy applications that were failing with no notification. The first of these was the data processing app for the live sports scores on foxsports.com.au. I developed a robust Perl app for their digital publishing system that included an extensible framework which allowed me to quickly deliver the next project: a system to process User Generated Content sent via SMS and MMS.

A 12 month contract (the first one) for Optus in the Internal Applications team where I made a number of enhancements to the Perl, mod_perl, Mason based customer support tools. I implemented a new VoIP provisioning system, an on-demand data migration system, and a number of other enhancements.

A 2 year contract with Unwired during their startup phase: from pre-launch to around 20,000 customers. The development team grew from 5 to 12. I developed the wireless service qualification tool in mod_perl (for significant cost savings over the commercial services available at the time), the reseller provisioning interface in PHP and XML-RPC, mail interface for single-password in PHP, and restructured the Money Back Guarantee system to implement new billing processes.

A 2 year contract for Telstra working in the business and custom hosting team, we were the development team for the high end web hosting products from Telstra. I rewrote the Perl-based hosting provisioning system cutting the running time from 36 minutes per cycle, to around 25 seconds. I then planned, prepared and implemented the migration of over 60,000 websites from an old NT4/Netscape platform to a clustered Win2000/IIS6 platform with the storage mapped to a NAS back-end.

FEBRUARY 1998 – OCTOBER 2000

Ian Pridham Pty Limited (10 employees, became Alien Technology, IT development services)

Software Engineer

Worked in a large team as one of two head developers on a number of projects in Java, Delphi, Visual Basic and C++. Was the stand-in administrator for UNIX web and mail hosting as well as WindowsNT network and domain.

SEPTEMBER 1995 - FEBRUARY 1998

On Australia (20 employees, became Telstra Bigpond, startup ISP)

Web Developer

Was part of the original development team of 5 developers from pre-launch until 50,000 customers. I built the template-based web-hosting product in ASP, much of the MSSQL online billing system and group billing systems, mail system integration, Radius server integration, system to auto-publish chat transcripts from IRC sessions, and a number of other internal and customer-facing products and systems.

References

Available upon request.