Sean Miller
Tech Lead / Architect

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I eat impossible code problems for breakfast, leaving concise and well-tested code in my wake. I've been developing software professionally since 1998, starting with web apps of academic corpora and moving on to large enterprise Java applications. Since 2007 I've worked on, led, and rescued several large Rails projects.

ClearFit, Toronto   **January 2012–present**

2012: Inherited a non-scaling Rails 2.1 prototype and turned it into a scalable modern app that grounded ClearFit's 2012 $7M funding round. Also extracted from the app and open-sourced the redtape gem (decoupling views from models)

2013: Mentored new developers as we expanded our engineering team, and built good communications with our new project team and with third parties we were integrating with (e.g. Monster, CareerBuilder)

2014: Continued to mentor and work with other developers and experts. Made additions to Cucumber testing framework so it was a closer fit for writing QA tests, and trained up QA so that they were able to write their own automated tests

Rails, PostgreSQL, Rspec, Cucumber, resque, AngularJS calling internal RESTful APIs, SOAP API calls to third-party services like Monster, also added a Java web service when image transformation in Ruby wasn't performant

Consulting for various clients   **October 2008–December 2011**

Brought in to help large student-facing app re-architect under tight deadlines

Rails, MongoDB, mailers, i18n for English and French versions, subdomains, haml and scss and jQuery

Worked with Pete Forde on an iPhone web app (side project)

Rails, jQuery, haml, jQTouch, Google Maps (looked at both jQuery Mobile and Sencha Touch for a 2012 side project, but since that had to work on very old Blackberries as well, ended up with a plain old Javascript solution)

Took over, expanded, made robust, and added proper test coverage to a large Rails business app

Rails, jQuery, haml, Cucumber (mostly Webrat, but Selenium for JS), factory_girl, shoulda, state_machine, cancan, ...

Lead developer / architect for innovative newsfeed reading Rails app (reviewed favourably in ReadWriteWeb)

Rails, scaling apps, optimizing sql, feed reading, background processes, S3, CloudFront, Twitter/Facebook/Gmail integration

mdlogix, Toronto (and Baltimore)   **June–September 2008**

Joined an existing very large (> 100k LOC) set of Rails projects and set about aggressively championing better and more pervasive testing and more agile practices

Comment from colleague: "You have made significant improvements in your brief time with us. Certainly more so than I've made in my first three months at any position I've held."

The Feedroom, Toronto (and NYC)   **June 2007–May 2008**

Championed the introduction of and spread knowledge of Ruby on Rails and improving practices

Built a prototype Digital Asset Management System in four weeks, with a Flex front end (from a standing start), and invented an end-to-end testing framework that integrated with the build.

Comments from peer review: "Picked up Flex quickly and became a bigger expert than our outside 'experts'." "Solves impossible problems." "Someone I feel safe trusting as our 'go-to' guy."

Intelliware Development, Toronto   **April 2004–June 2007**

Developer at the premier Java extreme programming shop in Toronto

Ph. D. from the University of Cambridge (February 1998)
An Analysis of the Anglo-Saxon Charters of the New Minster of Winchester,
published 2001 by the Oxford University Press for the British Academy (ISBN 0197262236)