

Douglas Ronne

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Dear Hiring Manager,

I am excited to apply for a position with Thoughtworks. I love working with legacy software. For starters it means the software has value to someone or it would not still be in use. I learned this when I started working at Protocase and took over their legacy CAD software. My first attempt was to simply rewrite it after I found it hard to work with. I thought I could rewrite it in a way that was easier to deal with. This was true for a while, then my nice fresh software became legacy software over time. I started reading books on legacy software and refactoring and test driven development. I began practicing these techniques and was able to run a team that continued to modify and grow this software without rewriting it. This was tremendously satisfying.

One interesting thing I did while I was there was define common sense. I did this to try to figure out how to train it to new employees. What I came up with was: *The knowledge and experience to understand what the possible unintended consequences of an action might be combined with the habit of pausing before acting to think.*

Finally, I did a lot of customer outreach where I would try to learn what their real problems were and how I could solve them. I have always been very empathetic to others' issues and find it easy to relate to them. I believe this would make me an ideal software consultant but I do not know how to find said work hence working for a consulting firm would be ideal.

Thank you for considering me for your role.

Sincerely,

–Douglas Ronne