

Ash Taylor

Contract Senior JavaScript/Typescript Developer

a@zi.vc | 07515349256 | github.com/zivc

Current Position

Ash Taylor Ltd : Contractor October 2018 - Present

Salmon : October 2018 - Present

As a contractor at Salmon I am helping migrate a Dutch fitness companies eCommerce solution to SAP Hybris. Other tasks include refactoring and trying to move the product into 2018.

Profile

Experienced front-end developer based in SE London. I am in my eleventh year commercially working for various types of companies and environments from a wide range of industries, such as; finance, sports gambling, live streaming, and ad agencies.

Previous Position

Excelian Ltd : Senior Consultant November 2017 - August 2018

As a Senior Consultant at Excelian, I worked with Angular 5 and React, with Typescript in an 'enterprise' environment. I was outsourced to companies such as Nordea and IHS Markit for various projects to offer expertise when the clients either lacked the capacity entirely or needed the additional resource.

For the Nordea project I wrote lengthy documentation so the client could follow very specific instructions in order to migrate their application from Angular 2 to Angular 5. I performed each task step by step, documented it, describing what I had to do to overcome package incompatibilities between their versions.

The IHS Markit relationship was on its last legs due to a failure to deliver appropriate assets from another business unit within Luxoft (parent company). We were drafted in to deliver a new project at cost in order to save the deal. Our London based UX team used Sketch to design the application - a blockchain application that had the intentions of solving the

expensive overheads of wiring money - and then I personally had to implement those designs via Zeplin into entire screens. They used Bootstrap 4, so I had to quickly become well versed in the framework in order to pull the gig off.

During the time between projects, we built a 'Bank Of Excelian' in order to keep ourselves 'skilled-up' as consultants on relevant technology and learning the fundamental differences between libraries like Redux and MobX.

Full Employment History

WME-IMG / IMG Gaming : Front-End Developer April 2017 - November 2017

Rejoined the IMG DGE team, a year after the DGE project was acquired from Livestream. The role now includes various data-driven projects involving real-time sports statistics and not just video.

In parallel to this, I was working with the team who started a white label pay-per-view platform for sports (EPL, UFC) and TV services (S Sport, Turkey).

See more on the DGE project below under Livestream.

The PPV platform was called DICE, and my main involvement on this project was investigating ways where it we could deploy a multi-tenant, white labeled front-end environment and how we would customise each layout for each client whilst keeping the code very verbose and preventing users from exploiting reverse engineering in order to find out our clients. I know I've listed some above but they're the ones that are public knowledge.

FIS Global / SunGard Financial Systems : UX/JS Developer July 2014 - March 2017

Kicked off the re-design and development of APT EnterpriseUI - part of a suite of Risk Management offerings from the Buy-Side AM area of FIS. Clients include HSBC, Aberdeen AM, RailPen, and more.

I worked on the full stack. KendoUI and Angular on the front-end. NodeJS (SailsJS) Socket.IO, RabbitMQ, MySQL on the server side. WebDriverIO and Bamboo for testing.

In my big first Finance role, I was brought in as a set of fresh eyes to re-develop and orchestrate a Risk Management system that was dated in its looks, and built by a whole bunch of people over the years with things grafted on and hacked together.

I started from scratch, and by I, I mean I was the sole front-end developer in a team of about

8-10 java developers who were working on the actual risk backends and reporting features. I had free reign and implemented features such as real time monitoring of executions of tasks on an analytics grid (billions of calculations using monte carlo analysis etc on entire portfolios - which could take hours) providing nice little loading bar animations.

Because jobs on the grid could take so long and hammering the database cluster with reads it reduced the performance across the entire application. I argued my case for a separate MariaDB (MySQL) instance for the UI only and got it. This meant I could quickly develop and implement features without having the need to rely on Java developers, including writing my own queries.

TOAD : Contract Lead Front-End Developer June 2014 - March 2015

Worked on Global {M} website. Built the MVP of a peer-to-peer accumulator style sports gambling application called Play Steak. This was eventually renamed to Goalmouth.

Standard website application for Global M using static HTML and CSS. Play Steak was built using AngularJS to get an MVP off the ground. They later hired a permanent guy to replace me and to continue with the project.

Livestream : Dev lead & Front-End Developer July 2013 - June 2014

Worked with IMG to build a Digital Gaming Exchange (DGE) where broadcasters and sports gambling services could purchase rights to individual sports games. Built on Google App Engine, using Angular, d3 and lots of real-time data with PubNub. Spent time working in Ukraine in company hackathons and managing a globally distributed team.

Headhunted for a position here as the general manager at the time, Mark Kornfilt, was really impressed with my involvement and history in the GetDarker project (under Side Projects below).

*I researched alternative UI frameworks as Backbone and Marionette was suggested but AngularJS 1 was new on the market so we went all in. It was Mark doing the backend of the application and myself doing the front-end. We hammered out an MVP quickly, and during this time hired 3 new Java developers who could do *some* front-end stuff.*

The MVP was improved and taken into production when we went live with sports franchises such as Ice Hockey (NHL), Tennis (WTA, ATP), and Badminton (BWF) and delivered a ridiculous amount of content through gaming operators such as Bet365, Marathon Bet, amongst others.

We had to build in support tools for a 24/7 support team and also make ourselves available as it got to the point where there was something always live on the platform.

Livestream later got acquired by WME IMG.

Reactive : Permanent Senior Front-End Developer February 2013 - July 2013

Projects: Tesco Real Food, BA High Life, BA Business Life, Newsgator.com, Intelligent Energy UP (portable hydrogen fuel cell). Other duties include liaising with the Managing Director directly to find, interview, and shortlist new developers. Shortly after joining Reactive I was headhunted to join Livestream.

Guxvu Ltd : Self-Employed August 2011 - January 2013

Worked at various companies while I was contracting, doing full site builds for the likes of Share.com, Deutsche Bank, British Gas, BT Wifi, BT Global Services, IHG Merlin, Massey Ferguson, O2 Priority, iTunes Festival, Thomson Reuters, Activia, Heinz, IMEX, Irish Beef, Capita, Absolut Vodka, Nescafe, Sony Ericsson, Douwe Egberts, Peugeot, Unilever and Volkswagen. Here are a few notable companies I worked on behalf of;

- **Rufus Leonard** : August 2012 - January 2013
- **M&C Saatchi** : July 2012 - August 2012
- **Insinctif** : June 2012
- **Agency Republic** : June 2012
- **Haygarth** : April 2012
- **Electric Hummingbird** : February 2012
- **Bostock & Pollit** : January 2012 - February 2012
- **Spinnaker Direct** : January 2012
- **Crayon** : November 2011 - December 2011
- **The Team** : October 2011 - November 2011
- **MediaCom** : October 2011
- **The Mill** : September 2011 - October 2011
- **Havas (Formerly known as EHS Brann 4D)** : August 2011 - October 2011

Iris Digital : *Permanent Front-End Developer January 2010 - August 2011*

Various projects for Sony Ericsson, Volkswagen, Unilever and others

Candi : *Permanent Junior Front-End Developer June 2008 - December 2009*

Morrisons, John Lewis Fashion launch

dotGroup Plc (formerly known as Ellipsis Media) : *Permanent Junior Front-End Developer March 2007 - February 2008*

Side Projects

I like tinkering in my spare time, playing with Philips Hue (ZigBee), AWS (Lambda), and messing about with other services in little projects to continuously improve my skillset. Some of the bigger projects are;

N/A : 2017-present - I built and maintain an anonymous review platform built with React (GatsbyJS), Typescript, Google Maps, Netlify, and AWS Lambda.

GetDarker : 2004-2014 worked with my brother on a platform pushing Dubstep music. Built and managed our own streaming network from scratch, utilising 3gbps of dedicated bandwidth through WOWZA Media Server delivering live 'TV' broadcasts of DJs playing sets to a global audience. In 2004 we streamed RinseFM (at the time was a pirate radio station only available in London) over the Internet to help enable worldwide listeners. 2009 we worked on an audio file sharing service for artists and producers - similar to what SoundCloud has become today. Released various compilation albums over the years and been privileged enough to have thrown many parties around the world as a result.

Trug : An IoT device that takes the smart-home to a whole new level of food and waste management using TensorFlow and Python.

guano : A small set of PHP scripts that abused Twitter APIs and amassed my account over 100k followers. (Has since declined to 30k).

sonos-nest-autostart : Automatically starts the Sonos when the Nest Camera detects we're home. Stops the music when it detects we are no longer home.

Awards

Sure Men Fast Cash Races (Iris Digital)

IPM gold award in the category for 'Healthcare, Fashion, Beauty' in 2012.

Case Study: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b75O6ksyvmw>