

Daniel Watson

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Technical Skills

Languages: Java, Groovy, JavaScript, C, C++, Perl, PHP, SQL, JSP, GSP, HTML

Databases and Procedural Languages: Oracle, Sybase, MySQL

Tools: Maven, Ant, Make, Eclipse, vi, gdb, Git, SVN, CVS, Clearcase, Hudson

Frameworks: Hibernate, Spring, Grails, Struts, Guice, JUnit, TestNG, Selenium, jQuery

Platforms: Linux, Solaris, Mac OS X

Professional Experience

Tower Hill Insurance Group

July 2007 – Present

Web Developer Team Lead

Led a team of developers that maintained and extended an existing insurance rating and policy management system. Made the decision to refactor the existing code base for maintainability and correctness rather than rewriting it. Pair programmed to rewrite the core rating functionality with complete unit test coverage. Switched to using Hibernate for database access to remove large sections of hand written SQL. Transitioned the system from using no framework to being built on top of the Grails web framework. Refactored the view layer to remove business logic and move it into the controller and replace custom JavaScript with jQuery plugins. Refactored database to normalize data and have foreign keys and other constraints. Instituted code reviews using ReviewBoard. Worked to lower the cyclomatic complexity of the software through the introduction of object oriented design. Worked to modernize other development practices through the use of continuous integration builds using Hudson, automated unit tests using TestNG, automated integration tests using Selenium, and replacing the existing Python based build system with Maven. Greatly increased batch processing speed by adding concurrency to the process. Achieved a fifty percent performance improvement through profiling.

MARKETech

Oct 2002 – Jul 2007

Senior Programmer Analyst

Designer and primary developer of a web-based application for filling out term life insurance forms. The application allows data entry personnel to customize dynamically generated web pages that resembled the forms and contained custom business logic based on rules from the insurance carriers. The system could use the entered data to intelligently fill out additional forms as well as using the data to populate PDF versions of the forms. The system was developed using Struts. Designer and primary developer of a back office website to control a large insurance website. The back office provided features such as website customization, policy management features, user tracking, user management, scheduling, reporting, and billing. Designed and developed software to import and export data in the ACORD XML format that is the standard in the insurance industry. Maintained and extended existing C, C++, and PHP applications. Rewrote legacy applications in Java. Replaced in-house code and libraries with open source alternatives. Developed design documents for systems to be implemented by other programmers. Developed APIs for interfacing with external companies.

FedEx Services through Ajilon

Feb 2001 - Oct 2002

Programmer/Consultant

Worked on the team that developed the core system of a large, multi-tiered, client-server, international invoicing and billing system. Wrote and maintained stored procedures used by the team for all database access. Wrote and maintained C and C++ code for distributed servers. Developed Perl and shell scripts to split large mainframe files and to control job flow. Duties also included creation and modification of software design documentation, component testing and code documentation, and assisting the testing group with preparation, execution, and verification of test cases. Acted as the team build and source control manager for two releases. Received recognition for helping to debug other teams code. Participated in multiple code profiling and performance enhancement groups. Identified a small change which lead to a ten fold speed increase in the international billing application.

Virtual Business Network

July 1998 - Feb 2001

Programmer

Maintained a suite of C programs for generating PDF files. The software could split a PDF into multiple files, concatenate PDF files, create PDF files from scratch, and overlay text and images onto an existing PDF file. Created software in Perl for overlaying text onto a PostScript file. Designed and implemented an insurance rating server, written in C, to rate an individual's health and provide life insurance quotes from many companies using data from an SQL database. Designed a PHP interface to the server to accelerate development by web developers. Created web interfaces to allow users without technical knowledge to customize web sites and modify SQL databases. Created customizable reporting software driven by xml definition files. Established an employee/project tracking tool to monitor and track work done by employees as well as project status. Extended existing Windows GUI programs written in C++ using the QT GUI toolkit. Added new language features, including regular expressions, to an internal scripting language. Added functionality to an internal compiler and interpreter for this language. Developed Unix software to perform remote maintenance and administration of web and mail servers. Used Perl to develop user administration software for an ISP. Created Apache modules to implement a custom virtual hosting solution and log access to a SQL database.