



RICH ADAMS

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LOCATION

San Francisco, California, USA

OBJECTIVE

To solve interesting programming problems in areas such as high availability/critical systems, large dataset processing, interface design, web development and networking/internet technologies.

SKILLS

Languages: **Expert**

Java, C++, PHP, (X)HTML 4/5, CSS 2/3, SQL, *nix CLI, XML, Shell Scripting (Bash), JavaScript (including AJAX/jQuery).

Experienced

Python, Perl, Pascal (Delphi), ASP, JSP.

- Other:*
- Primarily a Linux (Ubuntu/Debian) user, but also experienced with Windows.
 - Experienced with various version control technologies; Git, SVN, CVS and Mercurial.
 - Expert with MySQL, Oracle and memcached; administration and query optimisation.
 - Well versed in web application security, W3C web standards, accessibility (WAI, colour blindness, screen readers), mobile websites and cross-browser compatibility.
 - Good understanding of server operations and system architectures.

EXPERIENCE

Sr. Systems Engineer

October 2010 - Present
San Francisco, CA, USA

[Gravity Mobile](#) / [Gracenote Inc.](#) / [Sony USA](#)

- Responsible for monitoring and troubleshooting all Gravity server applications and systems.
- Provide 24/7/365 on-call support for Gravity server infrastructure and applications.
- **Primarily focussed on operations;** administering backend server/database systems to ensure security and stability/uptime, MySQL maintenance (incl. replication), creating and configuring application VM instances, and maintenance of load balancer setup.
- Wrote Bash scripts and Java applications to fully automate server deployment and monitoring.
- Wrote and maintain extensive documentation on the entire system and application architecture.
- Wrote a variety Nagios plugins for monitoring/notifications and built a [NOC display for Nagios](#).
- Performed a security review of Gravity systems/applications to ensure compliance with Gracenote Information Security directives and policies.
- Built the [Gravity Mobile website](#) (incl. [mobile version](#)) from designs provided by the design team.
- **Data centre experience;** performed various hardware upgrades, racked and cabled a new server, and cabled fibre to all existing Gravity Mobile servers.
- **Amazon web services (AWS) experience;** launched and configured several applications on EC2, utilizing S3 to store assets. Planned the migration of a large application from Gravity's infrastructure - Involved re-designing the architecture to utilise EC2, RDS, SQS, IAM, S3, CloudFront and ElastiCache, to be highly-available, fault tolerant and scalable.

Software Development Engineer

September 2007 - September 2010
Heathrow Airport, UK

[Amadeus Services Ltd.](#)

- Senior C++ developer on the Baggage Team for Airline IT - [Departure Control Systems](#).
- Responsible for design and development of a new baggage sortation messaging framework.
- Heavily involved in airline cut-overs, ranging from small/domestic to large/international airlines.
- Constructed a variety of internal monitoring and investigative tools using Java and PHP, in my spare time; and maintained other internal tools written in Perl, Python and Ruby.
- Attended airline face-to-face meetings as the Amadeus baggage expert.
- Primary and secondary production on-call as needed, resolving production issues in real-time.
- Acting Unit Manager of the Baggage Team during the Unit Manager's absence, and for a 12 week transition period between managers in late 2009.

Support Administrator (Volunteer)

June 2006 - January 2009
Worked Remotely

[LiveJournal Inc.](#)

- Provided technical support for a website with over 2 million active global users.
- Oversaw all volunteers in the Style Systems category - approved answers and evaluated progress - and reported in to paid staff.
- Developed a [Firefox add-on](#) to increase the efficiency of responding to support requests.
- Beta-tested new website features, reported bugs, and provided feedback.

Web Developer

 [Nutratech Ltd.](#)

December 2005 - September 2007

York, UK

- Designed and developed new features for the Nutracek website, and converted existing content to valid semantic code using W3C standards.
- Wrote various back-end areas of the website using Java/JSP on Tomcat.
- Custom built the front-end of an open source forum to use on the website, now used by several other related websites.

Web Developer, Chief Projectionist, Producer & Editor (Volunteer)

 [York Student Cinema](#)

January 2004 - April 2007

York, UK

- Volunteer for over 3 years in various roles.
- Produced and edited the termly publication "Exposure!", a bound 32-page colour magazine containing reviews for upcoming films.
- Held several technical roles such as Chief Projectionist and Chief Technician.

Freelance Web Developer

 [Self-Employed](#)

July 2003 - November 2007

York and London, UK

- Designed and developed several small - medium websites for a variety of clients over a 4 year period using both (X)HTML/CSS and PHP/MySQL.
- Primarily worked with the LAMP stack of software.
- Specialised in cross-browser compatibility and writing W3C standards compliant code.

Web Developer and Technical Support

 [Adams Russell Ltd.](#)

June 2002 - April 2009

Worked Remotely

- Designed and implemented the website and provided ongoing technical support.
- Developed a client database application using Delphi and Microsoft Access.
- Upgraded and added further developments to their in-house financial planning software.
- Provided technical guidance and assistance in upgrading computer systems.

EDUCATION

Master of Engineering (Hons) in Computer Systems and Software Engineering
[University of York](#), England (2003 - 2007)

Interests Networks/Distributed Systems, Evolutionary Algorithms, Constraint Programming and Principles of Unconventional Programming.

Group Project (A grade)

Internal Submarine Vessel Communication System (Set by Thales Underwater Systems)

- Designed and implemented the user interface for our solution in C++.
- Created and maintained the Subversion repository used by my team.
- Gave a presentation to *Thales Underwater Systems* regarding the UI design decisions.

Masters Project (A grade)

"Music Recommendation using Collaborative Filtering with Similarity Fusion" 

- Developed a recommendation engine combining the two main forms of collaborative filtering.
- Created server-side of project in PHP to collect and store listening information from users.
- Built a Java GUI to display recommendations and visualise why they had been made.
- Users were able to adjust the data in real-time to produce new recommendations.

INTERESTS

My main hobbies revolve around my love of films, music, photography, climbing, travelling and ice hockey.

In my free time I like to play piano and enjoy reading comedy from such authors as Douglas Adams, Terry Pratchett and Neil Gaiman. I regularly read articles on particle physics and astronomy as I have a strong interest in scientific reading. I am also currently learning Cantonese (广东话), attending a few evening classes and working in my own time using online materials and text books.