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Skills

## Technical Proficiencies:

**Languages & Frameworks:** Expert in C# (25 years), JavaScript (20 years), ASP.NET to .NET 8 (25 years), Node.js, and React (5 years). Proficient in Vue and various MVVM frameworks. I’ve also in the past used most platforms from J2EE, CORBA, Perl & PHP.

**Databases:** Advanced knowledge of SQL (SQL Server, Postgres, MySql, Sqlite) and NoSQL databases (MongoDB, RavenDb) with over 20 years of experience in database management and architecture.

**Cloud Computing & DevOps:** Extensive experience with Azure (8 years), Docker, Kubernetes, and cloud-based system architectures. Proven track record in building and scaling distributed systems using both cloud and self-hosted environments.

**Messaging & Streaming / Eventing Systems** – Multiple messaging systems from SQS to Azure Service Bus & Kafka.

**Software Development & Leadership:** Demonstrated ability to lead development teams and manage large-scale software projects. Experienced as a Development Lead, Head of Engineering, and CTO in diverse settings from Fortune 500 companies to startups.

## Professional Highlights:

**Versatile Development Expertise:** Over 25 years of comprehensive involvement in software application development and strategy at all organizational levels, from hands-on coding to executive leadership.

**Diverse Industry Impact:** Contributed to a variety of sectors including technology giants like Microsoft and Dell, tourism through VisitScotland, and innovative startups in agriculture and web development.

**Remote Leadership & Education:** Pioneered remote development processes and strategies. Designed and delivered a successful training program for over 200 budding developers, achieving a 90% employment success rate post-training.

**Recent Technological Focus:** Adapted and excelled in the latest Microsoft and Node/React development stacks, maintaining cutting-edge skills throughout the shift to remote work during the global pandemic.

Education  
BSc (Hons) Psychology – University of Stirling 1996

# Work

## Consulting - Lead Developer / Architect / Managing Director - January 2012 – Present

In this role, I have served multiple clients, acting as Lead Developer, Architect, and occasionally as a stand-in CTO. My work has spanned from guiding startups through their critical launch phases to spearheading major development projects for established companies.

Key Projects and Achievements:

**Startup Development Leadership:** Assisted a foreign aid startup in streamlining their product launch process. My role as Development Manager involved finalizing product development and providing advanced technical guidance to suppliers, ensuring timely and successful product rollouts.

**Developer Training Program:** Independently created and led a comprehensive training program for over 200 novices in software development, using ASP.NET Core, Node.js, and React. This initiative was hosted at a local university and achieved a 90% success rate in transitioning participants into full-time employment within the tech industry over three years.

**Legacy System Modernization:** For a client needing to upgrade their outdated Classic ASP application, I designed and implemented a suite of modern solutions including WinForms, WPF, and ASP.NET MVC 4.x, integrated with a jQuery-based hybrid application. This redesign facilitated data extraction across diverse database systems, enhancing operational efficiency and user experience.

**E-Commerce Platform Overhaul:** Led the architectural design and development of a scalable, distributed system for a large online print shop. The project involved updating the platform for improved performance and maintainability, replacing outdated components, and integrating RESTful APIs for a Single Page Application (SPA) frontend. My collaboration with frontend developers ensured an optimal customer experience, exceeding initial project specifications.

## Senior Contract Developer – Very Jane Ltd – 01/04/2024 – 01/08/2024

I was contracted to build the backend systems for the new owners of Jane.com, a large seller focussed Ecommerce application. I architected the backend systems for product loading, payments, promotions, etc in ASP.NET 8. This involved integrating multiple payment systems such as Stripe Connect and Hyperwallet.

## Head of Engineering – Seamcor Ltd / Contract – 01/12/2022 – 30/04/2024

I acted as contract Head of Engineering leading a team of up to 6 developers building an ASP.NET Core system. I was both hands on writing ASP.NET Core code as well as devops using Docker Compose to build a mirror system to our Azure hosted platform.   
This role transitioned into rearchitecting the system to meet customer needs by adding technologies like OpenSearch to provide quick and easy access to customer data while providing comprehensive reporting capabilities.

## Lead Engineer – GBG Plc (Loqate) – 15/08/2022-15/11/2022 - Perm

I was the lead engineer responsible for a global scale search product (search-as-you-type worldwide address lookup).

I this role I learned how to build & run global scale GKE hosted Kubernetes container-based systems and optimize for super high throughput .net 6 microservices using multi-gigabyte local datasets. I was responsible for setting the technical direction, approach to development in terms of CI, CD, testing etc…

In this role I learned more about k6 load testing, docker, Kubernetes, Grafana, Prometheus, SymSpell, ElasticSearch and the Google Build and Kubernetes hosting platforms.

## Lead Developer – WCOM AB – 01/10/2021 – 31/05/2022 – Contract

While with WCOM I worked on a wide number of projects using:

Azure DevOps – extensive use of DevOps technologies (ARM & Bicep) IAAS approaches to CI & CD.

Azure Functions – Queue, Http, Timer triggered working as part of an orchestrated microservice approach

Blazor Server – Reporting app using Blazor & ASP.NET 6

SignalR – App built allowing IPC using SignalR and WPF for an even based ‘remote control’ and screen mirroring POS app.

## Lead Engineer – H3Space Limited – 07/06/2021 – 07/09/2021 – Full Time (FT)

H3Space is a privately funded 3D Architecture start-up. My role was to define and build a full development team to deliver a highly scalable online community supporting a Unity 3D Desktop tool. I was involved in the full scope of platform definition and build, working with a BFF design around a React JS front end backed by a Stitched GraphQL Facaded service on to a Headless CMS (Dato) & bespoke services on Azure.

My team & role was eliminated when a refocus on the 3D Tool was decided upon by the main investor.

Huozhi Limited- Technical Consultant / Dev Lead – June 2018 – March 2020. - Contract

Acted as advisor, recruiter, dev lead and CTO during the initial startup phase to define product as well as how to form a dev team. Returned numerous times to solve assorted issues around dev and release approaches.

Interactive Reporting limited – Lead Developer – December 2015 – June 2021 - Contract

Long term contract building a web-based reporting platform using ASP.NET MVC, WPF & WInforms against multiple database backends. I architected and built the platform using C#, JQuery and advanced database integrations using Stored Procedures, Views etc.

Drivenlower– Lead Developer – 06/09/2011 – 15/02/2012 - Contract

Customer had in-car devices which sent telemetry data over UDP. They couldn’t host this in **a** cost-effective manner to serve the expected highly variable user load.   
Designed and developed an Azure based UDP socket listener and binary parser for incoming data which was able to scale horizontally as well as vertically in a highly adaptive manner.

Dell - Development Lead - 01/2011 - 05/07/2011 - FT

## Microsoft Corp. (Redmond, WA, USA) - 01/2007 - 10/2009 - FT

Program Manager (II) ASP.NET Team   
Drove the program for completion of ASP.NET release lifecycle as well as the deployment of the first MVC versions. Ran bug triage, integration with wider .NET platform, community effort for ASP Insiders and MVP groups. Led the development of numerous features in ASP.NET.

Program Manager (II) Project Server Team  
Platform which Project Server was based on (SharePoint) was changing rapidly and so Project Server had to change to conform to new requirements.

Responsible for delivering technical core features in Project Server and integration with MOSS product team. Worked on new security infrastructure just now finding its way into MOSS.

## Microsoft Ltd. (UK) - Application Developer Consultant (ADC) - 06/2005 - 01/2007 - FT

Specialised in performance analysis and tuning for a wide variety of customers ranging from a large NHS project through smaller travel companies, software for the UK police etc. I led multiple performance labs in the Microsoft UK labs as well as in HPC applications in Stuttgart.  
Aided customers to deliver a very wide variety of systems whilst also liaising with numerous product teams at Microsoft corporate to assist customers in solving their development issues.

## StormID – Lead Developer - 02/2003 - 06/2005 - FT

Fast paced agency environment where I worked on many and varied projects from a massively scalable (.5 million+) mail merge system using ASP.NET, Windows Services etc through an Education Portal for Microsoft UK and multiple custom ecommerce systems which variously increased conversion rates by orders of magnitude.

## VisitScotland – Technical Architect - 03/2002 - 02/2003 - FT

Requirement for a ‘templatable’ number of websites based on newer technologies; existing skillset of developers was using a complex CORBA system which was no longer fit for purpose.  
Directed training, architecture, workflow for the team of 20 developers to move to a J2EE / MVC based system which allowed the simple delivery of multiple themed websites based on a single expandable platform.   
   
GlobalFarmers – Internet Development Manager - 06/2000 - 03/2002 – FT

Managed an internal as well as external team building a new reverse auction site using J2EE and Object Based Databases as well as building custom applications using PHP.   
  
BlackID – Web Developer - 02/1999 - 06/2000 - FT

## Newstel – Web Developer - 02/1998 - 02/1999 - FT