

Ben Roberts

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A strong multi-talented individual with a first class honours degree, having a well-developed commercial grasp of designing, developing and deploying online enterprise web applications

Now seeking a permanent Lead Developer role in a creative and ambitious organisation that can fully utilise my dynamic people skills and production expertise. Looking for a long-term position, which has the potential to take me into other areas of advertising, new media and product development.

Key Selling Points:

- A rare mix of technical ability, creative flare, tempered with good commercial awareness
- Logical and perceptive delivery of solutions in time critical environments
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills on a variety of levels
- Good commercial and business awareness
- Highly motivated and driven by challenge
- Commercial experience in all roles within a complete product lifecycle.

Employment 2006 – date

Lawton Communications Group

In nearly four years of employment I have, taken on and excelled in roles as an Internal Developer, Programmer, Project manager and Scrum Master. At the same time I have found time to accomplish and been recognised for a number of personal achievements.

Scrum Master

As a certified Scrum Master I have take a team of 10 production staff from a 50% completion rate to 95%+ over the course of six months through a process of substantial change and constant refinement. A self motivated role which has allowed me to develop strong motivational and people management skills; quickly building rapport and achieving results, within a team of strong personalities.

Programmer

Having successfully delivered a number of high profile sites, the personal highlight of which was redeveloping THQ's global gaming site. The site, built in Java, needed to be re-engineered into a PHP stack, because of the size of the site the Customer facing and client CMS areas needed to be launched in two separate phases, meaning the new site needed to be build around a fixed data structure. This process took three months, compared to the year it took to put together the original Java build. As well as having completed projects using industry leading frameworks, I have built a custom framework for rapidly building sites of medium complexity without the server overhead of a full ORM.

Internal Developer

Workflow our trafficking system is now pivotal to the organisation; it was developed over a period of four months closely linking development with traffic managers. It was a challenging system to build requiring complex SQL for dealing with time based work schedules, tasks spanning days or weeks and being able to view 50+ projects over a month long period all in a single view. This all had to be achieved whilst keeping the system responsive to use. Over the course of two years I oversaw the development of a client extranet, corporate intranet and a number of business analysis and reporting tools. These systems, integrating with accounting and other company systems, have helped the business secure clients and save money whilst affording the company systems that precisely met their business needs.

Personal Achievements

In the past four years I have won 'Innovator of the year' award two consecutive years running and 'outstanding achievement outside of work' the year after. I hold the 'Golden Balls' trophy for table football and am also Vice Chair of the Culture Team; a group dedicated to upholding the internal values of the company and the people that work there.

Key Skills Scrum, PHP 5 OOP, MySQL, CodeIgnitor, AJAX, JS, Prototype, XHTML, CSS.

Employment
2002 – 2006

Keytools Ltd

Keytools is a niche IT supplier, with an ambitious e-commerce strategy, involving 5 primary and over 60 secondary web-domains.

Web Designer

Stepping in to cover a sudden departure, I reported to the Marketing Director. Over this period, I maintained, and then overhauled the company's entire web and e-commerce systems.

While keeping the legacy system running – incorporating new products and fixes - I also developed and then implemented an entirely new database driven ASP e-commerce web-site. On the customer-facing side, this has an improved 'look and feel', with custom built smart search facilities and streamlined ecommerce, and, by catering for both account and casual customers, has doubled the reach.

Four particular operational features have also proved their worth – high resilience, through error-trapping; a simplified user-interface, enabling unskilled staff to manage and up-date the site; a standardised brand- and corporate-identity enforced through CSS; and, not least, automated management and SEO tools to measure and increase site performance.

As a result the Company enjoyed over 600,000 internet visitors annually at the time.

During my time at Keytools, I also created an Intranet, which provides live information from the accounting and CRM systems, and a number of simple productivity tools such as an on-line credit card validation system.

The final phase of my work at Keytools involved the recruitment, training and transfer of skills to a permanent web-master.

Key Skills Photoshop, ASP, ASP.net, MSSQL Server, JS, HTML, CSS, IIS

Employment
2001 – 2002

HSBC Pic

HSBC has a wide-range of banking activities - I was asked to assist with their taxation systems for high-rate tax payers.

Admin & Programmer

While originally employed to carryout data input tasks, I created a software process which replaced a number of manually intensive tasks. This meant that a three day task could now be completed in less than three minutes.

Key Skills Access, Excel, Visual Basic, Phoenix (Proprietary DB)

Education

- Certified Scrum Master (2009)
 - Multimedia, Technology & Design BSc - 1st Class - Brunel University (2001)
 - 4 A-levels (1999)
 - 10 GCSEs (1997)
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Abilities

- Highly developed conceptual skills with an excellent commercial and pragmatic outlook
 - Forward thinking goal-orientated problem-solver
 - Highly adaptable
 - Dependable & committed
 - Good leadership qualities
 - Sociable and a good mixer, with capable interpersonal skills at a variety of levels
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Interests

- Photography, Digital Art, Video Editing
 - Music, Films, & Theatre
 - New technology
 - Life Skills, Psychology
 - Cooking
 - Golfing, Kiting, Cycling
 - Socialising – I have seem to have a lot of friends!
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