

ALEX SHAKESPEARE

Personal Details

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Career History

(C) denotes contract position - (P) denotes permanent position

For further information on these roles and examples of work, visit my website at <http://www.alexshakespeare.com>

Head of Development (P) **CMC Markets** **May 2007 – August 2011**

I worked in Digitallook, a part of the CMC Markets group. Digitallook is a provider of website portals for clients including HSBC, Barclays, Santander, Charles Stanley and the BBC.

I started this role as a senior developer, brought in to oversee the development of an innovative new web-based trading product. I was heavily involved in the initial design, implementation and deployment of this product, which was delivered on time and relatively bug-free.

Once this product was rolled out, I was involved in the day-to-day running of digitallook.com, as well as our corporate customers. I refined many procedures, leading to pain-free release days, fewer bugs and a vastly improved UAT environment for the corporate clients to test on.

Following a management reshuffle, I was offered the position of Head of Development. I gained significantly more responsibilities, including managing a new offshore team, managing 10 onshore developers, daily contact with our corporate clients (both on- and off-site) and incident management. I introduced daily scrums with the three development teams and, due to falling headcount, was also tasked with recruiting new members of the teams.

Digitallook was bought by Web Financial Group (WFG) in December 2010. I oversaw migration of the data centre and trained WFG staff in all aspects of the systems, before leaving CMC in August 2011.

Skills used: Pre/post sales consulting and support. Management of offshore team. Incident management. Perl/HTML/TTK scripting. SQL optimisation. Memcache. Advanced Javascript (incl. JQuery and EXTJS). CVS. Selenium. Technical specification authoring and data modelling.

Systems Consultant (C) **Nature Publishing Group** **September 2004 – October 2007**

I was originally brought in on a 3-month contract to script various repetitive data import processes. At the end of this period, I was asked to work on other projects.

The largest project I worked on was a quote application, which quoted for the Nature site-licence product. This system was used by sales teams in the USA, Japan and Europe and was both multicurrency and multilanguage. Within 2 years, the system created thousands of quotes totalling over £1bn and saved several hundred man-hours' worth of administration. Since the sales team were forced to comply with the complex price model, collected revenues increased dramatically.

I also wrote a number of smaller applications for Nature; examples are at <http://alexshakespeare.com>

I continued to work part-time (weekends) for Nature, providing support for the sales application.

Skills used: Perl/HTML scripting. Advanced Apache configuration. Javascript/AJAX based DHTML. SQL Server (incl. stored procedures and DTS). Windows administration. Advanced data modelling.

MIS Manager (C>P) **Lastminute.com** **October 2002 – May 2004**

After starting at lastminute.com on an initial 3-month contract as a Perl programmer, involved in the parsing of simple log files to a database, it was quickly realised that I could add value to many other areas of the MIS (Management Information Systems) department. I was the sole programmer on many data-extraction-related projects, tying in several data sources (from flat files through to Informix production systems) to the MIS centralised data repository.

I took on the role of MIS manager in July 2003 and proceeded to build all the (now-defunct) systems from scratch – with a Business Objects expert and Perl programmer as my staff.

By the end of August, we were extracting over 400,000 records daily from 30 different, failure-prone sources across Europe. I also coded a realtime dashboard – which gave the business up-to-the-minute sales statistics and allocation-based information as well as projections on forecast daily

revenue. We created many new reports in Business Objects, which consequently increased revenue and margin in many key product lines.

Skills used: Perl scripting for ETL tasks and other purposes. HTML & MySQL for customised reports and realtime dashboard application. Oracle/Informix/Postgres/MySQL/SQL Server used for ETL and general one-off queries/SP (where applicable). Business Objects for report creation.

Short term contracts (C) Shakespeare Solutions Ltd April 2002 – October 2002

I worked on various small projects lasting on average a fortnight on a consultancy basis. These include a Postgres migration for a Nortel Networks client extranet.

Senior Webmaster (C) British Broadcasting Corp. August 2001 – March 2002

I was responsible for ensuring that the BBC brand was maintained and ensuring quality throughout the BBC website. I coded and deployed a management/data-mining tool to enable general access to accurate contact information for each sub-site. I assisted in the deployment of the BBCi toolbar by administering Solaris staging boxes and coding tools to help check/manage toolbar rollout before deadline. After the successful rollout, I received an award for outstanding performance.

Skills used: Perl scripting with Apache for various management tools/short order scripts. Solaris administration. General HTML/Javascript/quirks knowledge for maintaining quality of BBC brand.

Head of Network operations (EU)(P) Liquid Audio January 2001 – July 2001

Liquid Audio was one of the Internet's largest distributors of music. I was responsible for a 3.6TB data centre with over 50 servers of varying capacity, all remotely hosted in the Docklands, as well as the internal office network, which consisted of 10 NT workstations and various development servers. I was also involved in consultation work with Liquid Audio's various subsidiaries in Japan.

Skills used: Perl scripting (intranet and sysadmin). MySQL. Solaris sysadmin for data centre.

Systems Specialist (P) Transaction-One October 1999 – November 2000

Transaction One was a web distribution company that specialised in electronic software distribution (ESD). I implemented two database-driven e-commerce websites. I also acted as the technical liaison for clients who wished to provide downloadable product fulfilment via their own websites.

Skills used: Perl scripting. HTML. C APIs. Oracle. Solaris Systems Administration.

Helpdesk Operator (Part-time) M.W. Kellogg July 1994 – September 1998

During school/university vacations, my work varied from VAX operations to user support.

Skills used: Basic VMS. Windows and Office administration.

Skills & Strengths

I consider myself skilled in the following technical areas:

- MySQL, SQL Server (2000 & 2005), Oracle (7.3.4, 8.0i, 9), Informix and Memcache
- Medium-scale ETL experience on most platforms using DTS and Informatica
- PERL (incl. OO), Bash, VB (6 & .net), Python, C++/C, Java (in decreasing scale of competency)
- HTML 5, Javascript (incl. JQuery & ExtJS), CSS(incl. Browser quirks)
- CVS, release management and Selenium testing suite
- LINUX (incl. NFS, CIFS, Samba, kernel customisation, general administration)
- Business Objects (incl. Financial reporting requirements and metrics, BCA and Webbie)
- Advanced Microsoft Windows and Office administration (2k, XP, Server 2003)

Education

<i>University of East Anglia</i>	BSc Computer Science (class 2:2)	1996 – 1999
<i>Dr Challoners Grammar School</i>	3 A-Levels	1994 – 1996
<i>Dr Challoners Grammar School</i>	10 GCSEs	1991 – 1996

Referees

- Primary: Andy Wilkins - please ask me for details.
- Secondary : Adam Sewell, Head of Business Systems, Nature Publishing Group – Tel: 0207 843 4746