CHRIS COLLINS - CURRICULUM VITAE

PERSONAL DETAILS

Full Name: Christopher James Collins
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PROFILE

An intelligent and hard-working software professional with sixteen years commercial experience in web development. Capable and adaptable with a personable manner, an eye for detail and a broad range of experience.

CORE SKILLS

- Software development principles (Object Orientation, Design Patterns, Domain Driven Design, Hexagonal Architecture, Test-Driven Development)
- Leading Agile projects
- Line management and mentoring
- Back-end development (PHP, Ruby, ASP.NET, REST APIs, MVC applications)
- Front-end development (HTML 5, JavaScript, Webpack, Gulp, SCSS, BEM CSS)
- Backend frameworks/libraries (Symfony, Laravel, Doctrine, Ruby On Rails, Zend Framework)
- Frontend frameworks/libraries (Vue.js, React.js, Backbone.js)
- Programming languages (PHP, JavaScript, Ruby, C#, Java, C++ and more)
- Relational databases (MySQL, PostgreSQL, Microsoft SQL Server)
- Version control and other tools (Git, SVN, Docker, Travis CI, Vagrant, Ansible)

EXPERIENCE

Software Delivery Manager – Box UK (April 2023–Present) (Reference available)

I am currently working as the Software Delivery Manager at Box UK - a software agency in Cardiff. I am responsible for the planning and implementation of processes to improve the competency and efficiency of developers and the quality of work they produce. I help shape the technical strategy of the company with both a hands-on practical approach and through facilitation, by supporting and guiding development team members.

Key areas of my focus include improving automated testing approaches, CI/CD processes, training and onboarding of new developers and the tracking and resolution of technical debt.

I also oversee the technical approach of our largest client's set of projects at a "portfolio level", advising where efficiencies can be made and learnings can be shared across teams.

Principal Developer – Box UK (February 2007–April 2023) (Reference available)

Prior to my promotion to Software Delivery Manager, I was employed as a Principal Developer at Box UK. I was responsible for leading a team of developers on large Agile (Scrum) projects and designing and implementing bespoke software applications. I previously held roles of Senior Developer (April 2012 - December 2012) and Software Developer (February 2007 - April 2012) at the company.

Line management and mentoring developers were key aspects of my role. I passed on valuable knowledge I have learned to other developers; particularly in the disciplines of code quality, architectural design and testing, which I am passionate about. I interviewed prospective hires and was involved in managing career development for developers.

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Much of my work involved working with PHP/MySQL applications using the Symfony framework, but I also worked with others, including Laravel, Zend Framework and Ruby On Rails. I specialised in back-end development, but also carried out front-end work. I developed responsive, mobile first layouts and used modern JavaScript tools and frameworks.

This role included client-facing responsibilities which I enjoy, such as conducting software demonstrations at the end of each sprint and liaising closely with clients and third-parties to gather and clarify requirements. I presented at sales pitches and delivered training courses to clients, both in person and remotely.

I delivered prestigious projects for many clients, including developing the weather functionality for the BBC Homepage and developing the web service behind the BBC's Travel News website. I also played a key part in the redesign of the World Vision Micro site, which brought about an increase in donations to the charity. Other websites I worked on include The National Gallery, The British Computer Society and Investec Asset Management. My most recent project was leading a large, long-term project for a massive multinational organisation with a multi-billion pound revenue.

Hotel Porter – Morgans Hotel (2005–2006) (Reference available)

I was employed part-time as a porter in Morgans: A five-star hotel in Swansea. My job involved contact with the guests, as well as working behind the scenes with the running and maintenance of the hotel. I assisted customers in the polite and respectful manner that is expected in a five-star establishment, being punctual and well-turned-out at all times.

Sales Administrator – Comet (2001–2002)

I worked part-time at the Culverhouse Cross branch of Comet PLC in an administrative/sales capacity. This entailed serving customers at the till and on the telephone, managing customer service issues and handling cash. Following my initial appointment for "Christmas cover" purposes only, I was invited to stay on in an established part-time post.

EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATIONS

Scrum Alliance (2013)

July 2013:   Certified Scrum Master

University Of Wales, Swansea (2003–2006)

June 2006 - BSc (Hons):   Computer Science (2:1)

St. Cyres Comprehensive School, Penarth (1998–2002)

June 2002 - 3 'A' Levels: Computing (A), Biology (A), Business Studies (B)
June 2001 - 1 'AS' Level: Chemistry (B)
June 2000 - 10 GCSEs: 5 A*s, 3As and 2 Bs

OUTSIDE INTERESTS

Outside of work I enjoy spending time with my young son, as well as pursuing my interests in football, playing the piano and guitar. I also enjoy watching films and photography, as well as coding in my spare time. I keep fit by playing badminton and going to the gym.

REFERENCES

References are available on request.