Birkir A. Barkarson

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Employment History

Head of Development & Technology, Senior Software Engineer
Cerego Japan (Tokyo, Japan)
01 2008-

After a couple of months of contract work, joined Cerego full-time to work on "iKnow", the company's language learning website. Main responsibilities included back-end programming in Ruby on Rails, overseeing code architecture, re-factoring and re-structuring large parts of infrastructure code. Extensive Performance tuning and MySQL optimizations. Lead Git adoption and multiple Rails and Ruby version migrations.

Later promoted to head of the Development Team. Responsible for the day to day operations of the engineering team, hiring and training of new and junior developers, optimization of workflows, processes and co-ordination with the product, testing and support teams.

System Engineer
Score / Open-Works Ltd. (Tokyo, Japan)
05 2004-07 2007

Worked for Score, a daughter company of the Japanese Olympic Supermarket chain. Mostly handled maintenance and modifications of old legacy systems and interfaces. Work was mostly in C/C++, along with occasional Java, PHP and more.

Moved internally after one year from Score to Open-Works to participate in a Enterprise Java project for Omron. With more high-intensity projects at Open-Works the move was permanent.

Projects:

- **Omron financial system:** Implemented an MVC servlet layer in Java for a in-house financial system for Omron Ltd.
- **Sapporo Beer Mobile:** Implemented a server side Java web service as part of a client/server solution for Sapporo Beer employees. The server was Java Axis/SOAP web service running on an Tomcat/Apache application and web server. The client was a BREW mobile solution for AU mobile phones also developed by Open-Works.
- **Xing Dreamcast OneToOne Karaoke System:** Designed an architecture for a karaoke user service being launched. The system was a three tiered solution with independent APIs handling data access, business logic, and a servlet based UI layer accessed by karaoke room WindowsCE based browsers. The implementation took advantage of various open source solutions to drastically cut development time and cost while offering advanced features, employing data-relation software, inversion of

control, aspect programming and mvc patterns.

- **Komatsu Butsuryu stock system:** Developed a mobile solution as part of a stock managament system for Komatsu distributions services. The solution was a database connected rich client developed in .Net C# for the WindwosCE 5.0 platform. Employed a three tiered architecture and an MVC framework.
- **Xing Dreamcast - phase 1.5:** Main designer and developer of the expansion to the OneToOne system.
- **Kawachi Yakuhin Gyomu Project:** Member of a large team a developers making a business system for Kawachi Pharmacutical. Overseen by NCR Japan, involving four other companies. Initial responsibilities included writing system specifications and then an implementation of a pilot system.

Programmer
ProArm http://www.proarm.co.jp/ (Tokyo, Japan)
12 2003-04 2004

Joined ProArm as a part of AIESEC trainee program to Japan. Main task was to program web site applications in PERL/CGI.

Software developer
Anza http://www.anza.is/ (Reykjavik, Iceland)
01 2001-04 2004

Worked in the Integration and Consulting section. Responsibilites included production-level programming, documentation and the evaluation of various systems.

Projects:

- **Electronic Marketplace:** Implemented a B2B solution for RMR (Electronic marketplace for Icelandic companies initiated by the Icelandic government). This solution was to act as a middle layer between customer's and supplier's end systems. This involved XML business documents (OAGIS and xCBL), XSLT transformations and HTTP/SOAP delivery and exchange.
- **Janus Security Monitor:** A .Net development project, using databases with a web service middle layer to keep track of personnel movement between security zones in the work place, interfacing with smart cards and gate monitor clients.
- **Tibco Environment:** Completed a specification of the structure and organization of the Tibco development, testing and production environments for Icelandic Telecom.
- **POS:** Technical consultant and developer on the integration middle layer of a point of sale system between in-store clients and SAP, ICMS back systems of Icelandic Telecom. Also completed a specification and a documentation of the project.
- **Tibco Integration:** Integration work between various systems, such as Lotus Notes, SQL-databases using mostly Tibco Rendezvous, Tibco Message Broker and Java.

Computer Specialist
Icelandic Japan K.K. http://www.icelandic.is/ (Tokyo, Japan)
06 2001-08 2001

Specialist work. Computer assistance and integration work.

Projects:

- **Adaptation of Navision Financials.:** Provided a custom solution for the company's Navision Financial System. Using the NF report system, I developed a system which matched placed orders to incoming containers of goods, greatly expiditing the processing of shipping manifests.

Software developer
Iceland Telecom <http://www.siminn.is/> (Reykjavik, Iceland)
10 2000-01 2001

Member of an in-house software development department. The deparment handled most of the companies development needs. It was later made into a daughter company which later became Anza.

Projects:

- **Sales System:** Lead designer and programmer of a client-server sales system which is used in the company's cafeterias. The system was based on an MS-SQL server and VB client with a smart card interface. The server handled data output to the HR and accounting systems via scheduled stored procedures.
- **Iceland Telecom Customer Center:** Error tracking and fixing, bug reporting on the companies web site dedicated to customer self service. The site included JSP (Tomcat) and ASP pages. Java servlets and IBM's ICMS API collection.

Education

- **B.Sc.**, 2000-2002. B.S, major in physics and minor in computer science
  University of Iceland

- **Cultural Exchange Program**, 1999-2000. Spent one year in Japan, studying Japanese language and culture.
  I.C.Y.E. Cultural Exchange program

- **B.Sc.**, 1995-1998. Study for B.S in physics.
  University of Iceland

- **College**, 1991-1995. First grade degree from math faculty.
  Commercial College of Iceland

Technical skills

Operating Systems: Linux (Red Hat, Centos, Fedora, Debian, Ubuntu, Gentoo, and others), Machintos, Sun Solaris and other Unices, Windows 95/98/ME, Windows NT/2K/XP.

Server installation and maintenance experience: Apache HTTPD, MS IIS, Tomcat application server, Various FTP servers (pure-ftp, Apache FTP, MS-FTP etc), SSHD, VMWare, Subversion, MySQL DB, MS SQL, Oracle.

Various Software (administration and user skills were applicable): Drupal CMS, Gallery, Bugzilla, Mantis BugTracker, Redmine, Jenkins, MediaWiki, DokuWiki, JBuilder, Visual Studio 6/7/8, Eclipse IDE, Mono, MS Office Suite, Open Office Suite,

Lotus Notes, Photoshop, Lightwave 3D, Tibco software (see section below), SAP, Git, and more....

Programming Languages: ADA, ASP, BASIC, C/C++, C# (.Net/Mono), PERL, Delphi, Java, Pascal, Scheme, Visual Basic 4~6 and .Net, Ruby, VBScript/VBA, CGI, CSS, HTML, SQL.

Tibco Software Experience: Message Broker, Integration Manger, Rendezvous, Designer, Hawk, Business Connect, Business Works.

Java Enterprise Development Software Experience: Struts Framework, Spring Framework, Hibernate, JUnit, dJUnit, DBUnit, Checkstyle, Findbugs, Apache Commons, Log4J, Ant, Maven, and more....

Ruby Libraries and Frameworks: Ruby on Rails, Sinatra, Git, Nginx, Mongrel, Capistrano, TestUnit/MiniTest, Rubygems, Rake, Bundler, Rspec, Cucumber, Rcov/SimpleCov, and more....

Natural Languages

English (Native), Icelandic (Native), Japanese (Advanced).

References

Available upon request.

Interests

Computers, Free and Open Source Software (FOSS), Science, Classical Literature, Science Fiction, Aikido, Squash, Cinema, Linguistics, Gourmet food and wine, Photography