Paul Ahern, Python Programmer

My Story So Far

Having worked at Natwest bank in London for 15 years developing Retail Banking applications, using the COBOL programming language, in 2006 I moved back to Ireland to build a place in the country. While there, I attended an MSc course in Artificial Intelligence and worked on a helpdesk supporting various web meeting products.

Since September 2010, I have been working in London as a Web Developer mostly using Python and Django. As an Irish citizen I am eligible to work in the UK.

Contact Details

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Technical Skills

Programming: Python, Javascript, COBOL, Java
Scripting: Bash, JCL, Rexx, Clist
Databases: MySQL, SQLite, DB2
Web: Django, HTML, CSS
Version Control: Git, Mercurial, Endevor
Management: Pivotal Tracker, INFOSYS
IDE: Eclipse/Aptana

Experience

Since Dec 2011 ReportLab in London:

Working as a Web Developer using Django.

Sep 2010-Nov 2011 Steel Business Briefing in London:

Worked as a Web Developer building sites using the Django web framework and the Python and Javascript programming languages.

Main components built:

▸ *Advanced Filter* – Subclassed ModelAdmin to allow filtering on ranges of data and many-to-many relationships as well as ForeignKeys.
▸ *Data Import Harness* – Programs and control data to populate the new database with legacy data.
▸ *Invoicing* – Redesigned creation and processing of invoices.

2008-2010 Premiere Global Services in Ireland:

Worked as a Web Technical Specialist answering client questions about using web-meeting products (Adobe Connect, Microsoft Live Meeting & Webex).

2006-2007 in Ireland:

Attended a full-time taught MSc course at UCC titled: Intelligent Systems for Business and Manufacturing.

Learned to drive.

1990-2006 Natwest Bank in London:

For seven years I worked on the Live Support Team, helping to keep vital bank systems running. This included two years on the Helpdesk dealing with problems reported by non-IT staff across the countrywide branch network.

For several of those years I also worked as a duty-programmer. Working at night to see that the batch programs completed successfully and dealing immediately with any problems that arose.

The remainder of my time was spent on various application development teams. One of which build a system which automatically sent letters to Customers when changes occurred to the Standing Orders or Direct Debits on their accounts.

As a member of Application Development teams I participated in the end-to-end process of designing, documenting, building and implementing systems. From collecting requirements from users through writing design documents and implementation plans as well as coding and testing my role covered the full development process.

Apart from the OS390 IBM mainframe environment, much of my time was spent using Microsoft Word and Visio to capture and communicate the requirements and design of new and amended systems.

Education

1987-1990 BA Computer Studies, University College Cork:

▸ Majored in Information Technology; Minored in Geography.

2006-2007 MSc Computer Science, UCC:

▸ *Subjects* – Computer Security, Mobile Apps and various aspects of Artificial Intelligence.
▸ *Projects* – Building a University Timetabling tool using Constraint-Based programming techniques and modelling an adaptive Spam filtering system.