

Curriculum Vitae of James Rigg

Profile

An Oxford graduate with 12 years commercial web development experience in the media and financial sectors, specialising in J2EE and Content Management. A team player in projects through their full development life cycle, with first-class analytical, design and problem solving skills. Customer facing and a good communicator at all levels in an organisation. Dedicated to maintaining and improving high standards.

Professional Qualifications

- Sun Certified Web Component Developer for J2EE Platform 1.4, Dec 2005
- Sun Certified Programmer for the Java 2 Platform 1.4, Jan 2003

Skill Set

- Java (6 yrs): J2SE 1.4 (Sun Certified Jan 2003) & 5.0, J2EE 1.4 (Sun Certified Web Developer Dec 2005), JDBC, JSP/Servlets
- Frameworks/Libraries: Struts (1 yr), Spring 2 (1 yr), iBatis SQL Maps (2 yrs), Hibernate 2 & 3 (1 yr), Lucene (1+ yr)
- Other programming languages: Perl (10+ yrs), Cold Fusion / CFML (3 yrs), C++ (1 yr)
- Oracle (7 yrs): 7, 8, 10g, some PL/SQL
- Other RDBMS: SQL Server 7 (2 yrs; DBA), MySQL (2 yrs), Borland Interbase (1 yr)
- Developer Tools: Eclipse IDE (5 yrs), PVCS Dimensions (1 yr), Subversion (3 yrs)
- Web Application Servers: Tomcat (6 yrs), JBOSS (2 yrs), Apache (5 yrs), Microsoft IIS (1+ yr)
- Content Management: Mediasurface / Morello CMS (8 yrs), Vyre Unify (6 mo)
- Digital Asset Management: Adobe Scene7 Image Server (2 yrs)
- Analysis & Design: UML (2 yrs), Data Modelling/Schema creation (10+ yrs), Object-Orientated Design (6 yrs)
- Leadership: Mentoring (2 yrs), Project Management (1 yr), Technical design (3 yrs), Software architecture (1 yr)
- Operating Systems: Solaris (10 yrs; Admin for v2.5), Linux (2 yrs), Windows (14+ yrs)
- Web (12+ yrs): HTML, XHTML, XML, XSLT, CSS, JavaScript, AJAX
- Natural languages: French (fluent), German (fluent), Italian (basic), Mandarin Chinese (basic)

Professional Experience

IN PERSONAL TIME

PANOGUIDE.COM

Panoguide is a commercial website I maintain in my own time. It has affiliations with major panoramic software companies and attracts ~.3 million page impressions pcm from over 3,500 registered users. It is a serious website but is also my Java/J2EE testing ground. Technical highlights: Google-like Jakarta Lucene British/American English synonym parser; 64bit Integer database bitwise searching; BBCode implementation to parse (and correct) forum pseudo code; 404 solution to seamlessly handle moved resources. The site includes a framework I created for dynamic image re-sizing and manipulation, using ImageMagick (I also created AWT, JAI & Mistral implementations).

I am currently rebuilding the application from the persistence layer up to use Spring 2 and Hibernate to remove the JDBC persistence layer, convert protection proxies to use Spring Security including AOP, etc.

Technologies: Java 5.0, Subversion, Lucene, Spring 2, SiteMesh, Hibernate 3, Tomcat 5.5, MySQL

WGSN is the leading trend forecasting and fashion industry analysis website for the fashion and related industries.

I first joined WGSN as a senior developer in a 3 man team, responsible for ongoing development and maintenance of the Mediasurface 3.5 CMS platform and the other website systems (perl scripts, Apache proxies, perl authentication/authorization system, Oracle 8i, SQL Server, Akamai). The organisation has gradually migrated toward the Java platform and as the most experienced Java developer I have been centrally involved in the specification, development and maintenance of Java systems. The first of these was an interactive light box “Scrapbook” (stateless session EJB, Struts, Hibernate 2, SQL Server). Since 2005 my role changed to that of Technical Analyst.

In several key projects I was project manager as well as hands-on developer, responsible for both technical implementation as team lead, the initial planning stages (Gant charts, specifications, issue log, risk register) and weekly reports to the project board. The first of these was the CMS upgrade project, which involved liaising closely with our supplier (Mediasurface) and with the Infrastructure/Unix teams. The process was an upgrade up 5 major releases of the CMS product, was time consuming and carried huge risks.

Japanese website: This project, to develop a Japanese version of the WGSN website (requiring the newer CMS), had to be delivered in just 3 months. I was the project manager and technical lead in the initial months of the project and I provided the solution to the tight timescale: to make iterative releases and the first release would be a beta release (meeting the deadline and providing additional breathing space for the IT team). Due to limited resources and the timescales, I was needed as a hands-on developer and I remained technical lead, setting the direction and defining the technical solution (involving Spring 2, Hibernate 3, SiteMesh, Oracle 10g) in conjunction with our contractors.

DAM: I am currently responsible for the analysis and technical design of a digital asset management solution including researching Vyre Unify, Scene7 and Adobe products and SDKs. I’m working on a proof of concept using Adobe ExtendScript and VersionCue SDKs to create hierarchical fixed taxonomy and auto-complete metadata fields stored in XMP and exposed through Adobe Creative Suite.

Technologies: Mediasurface / Morello CMS, Oracle 8i & 10g, Java 1.4 & 5.0, J2EE 1.4, Struts, Spring 2, EJB 2, Hibernate, iBatis SQL Maps, Perl 5, JBOSS, Tomcat 5, Apache, Akamai, Unix (Solaris 8,9&10, Linux), Vyre Unify, Scene 7 Image Server, VersionCue SDK, XMP, ExtendScript

Mediasurface is a Content Management System vendor based in the UK. During my employment I worked on various projects both in the engineering team and as a consultant for professional services.

Asset Transfer: I was part of a 3-man team responsible for creating a new feature to allow selective data replication between a ‘development’ and a ‘staging’ instance of the CMS. My involvement was: design a more extensible servlet comprising a single controller servlet with multiple dispatchers, expose new resources through the Java API, design and implement a pagination solution (using scrollable result sets in Oracle), co-write the online documentation, design and implement an auto-recovery mechanism (e.g. to handle power or network failure), code review & test features implemented by other members of the team. All of these features involved initial design in UML, implementation (changes to persistence, domain, proxy and client API layers plus JSPs as required), and testing (JUnit and human tests).

Cancer Research UK: I was technical lead for Cancer Research UK’s Internet website project from initial requirements gathering and technical design through to hand-over. This site used the Perl API, and included integrations with WorldPay, Mailman and Screaming Media SITEWare (for the news feed).

Britannia Building Society & Nomura: BBS and Nomura both encountered performance problems in Mediasurface with complex data searches. I provided both organisations with a customised, reusable API function to perform the much more complex search they required, eliminating in-memory filtering of results.

Reuters: Reuters had implemented versioning on ‘folder’ items, which had lead to confusion amongst their content editors. I helped the technical team understand what was happening in the system and I assisted them to decide how to develop their site further and avoid further confusion.

EMI: EMI wanted to create a media-rich site driven almost entirely using Flash Generator, but powered by the Mediasurface CMS. I researched possible integration points and proposed a number of approaches to achieve this objective, and I subsequently wrote a best practice guide to Flash in Mediasurface.

Carrefour: Carrefour wanted to use Mediasurface as a data warehouse and not as a web application. As technical lead, I created the server Perl code to import data, and agreed the best data file format/structure with Carrefour’s technical team. I also acted as simultaneous English/French translator.

Best practice: I spearheaded “best practice”, specialising in application security (incl. single sign-on), caching, performance tuning, Flash and versioning, and wrote technical papers on these topics.

Technologies: Mediasurface CMS, Java 1.4 & J2EE, Oracle 8, UML, PVCS Dimensions

NOV 1998 - JAN 2000 GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS LTD DATABASE SYSTEMS DEVELOPER

Guinness World Records produces the Guinness Book of Records and Guinness Book of British Hit Singles. My responsibilities included: application design, coding, testing and support, NT 4.0 Server administration (including user administration, security and IIS 4.0), Microsoft Access database design, administration and support, SQL Server 7 database administration (inc. backup and recovery).

I designed and developed the database schema and Cold Fusion web front end for both the Guinness Book of Records (GBR) and Book of British Hit Singles (BBHS). For GBR I created a C++ DLL to handle dates in the range $\pm 50 \times 10^{12}$ years. Using this DLL, dates were stored as 128 bit integers compatible with any database and facilitating the correct formatting of dates using the proleptic Gregorian calendar. For BBHS I first wrote code to read Quark tagged files (the most recent source data) and a subsequently reverse engineered this code to make it possible to publish the entire book in a few simple clicks. As a direct result the book is now published annually (previously it was bi-annually).

Other smaller database solutions included an Intranet web based document repository, Intranet telephone directory and Intranet announcements/events diary system. All used Cold Fusion and Access.

Technologies: Cold Fusion 4, SQL Server 7, Access, Windows NT System Admin, Perl, C++, JavaScript

JUN - OCT 1998 DEUTSCHE BANK WEB SOLUTIONS MANAGER

I was involved in the continuing development of the Corporate Intranet Style Standard, web hosting services, DNS topology and debates over use of different technologies (such as Lotus Notes). I built web applications including an events diary, web feedback system and context sensitive online help.

Technologies: Perl, HTML, JavaScript

NOV 1996 - MAY 1998 ICL ELECTRONIC BUSINESS SERVICES BEEB.COM WEBMASTER

Beeb.com was a collaborative project between ICL and the BBC to produce a commercial website for the BBC. I was responsible for 24/7 uptime including maintaining the Unix (Sun Solaris) development server at TV Centre, liaising between the development team and live server maintenance team (as well as doing some maintenance myself), maintaining code and implementing enhancements and fixes to websites already launched, advising on techniques, code, conventions, testing procedures, deciding on where to locate new sites and setting up servers for new sites with any necessary applications and at times assisting with the configuration of that software and testing of it. I proposed and implemented a system monitoring tool (ksh) which generated SMS alerts and also a Cold Fusion error reporting & tracking system.

Technologies: Cold Fusion, SQL, ksh, HTML, Perl, Solaris 2.5 System Admin

Personal Data

HOW TO CONTACT	Since this is a publicly available document, for my own privacy I do not include a postal address, telephone numbers, etc. Please get in touch via my website www.panoguide.com
DATE OF BIRTH	06 December 1974 (Southampton)
EDUCATION	2:1 (hons) in Jurisprudence from Oxford University in 1996 'A' Levels: French (A), German, Maths and Physics (B grades). GCSEs: 9 'A' grades (The Sciences, English & English Literature, French, Geography, German, Maths and Technology Microprocessor Control).
NATIONALITY	British
INTERESTS	Panoramic VR photography, gardening, DIY