
GILLES DUCHESNE

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Strong knowledge

C#, C/C++, ASP.NET, VB.NET, MFC, SQL, LINQ-to-SQL, Javascript

Other technologies

XML, XSLT, NHibernate, WPF, Python, JQuery, VBA, AJAX, Java, Dojo, Jakarta Tapestry, Jakarta Struts, Microsoft Analysis Services

Business knowledge

Data modeling, Agile methodologies, Project management & tracking, Team mentoring, UX Design

Language

French, English

Security Clearance

Reliability

Education

Bachelor's Degree in Computer Engineering
(Université de Sherbrooke, Sherbrooke, Québec)

Post-graduate training

GUI Design for Developers, Fundamentals of Successful Project Management, Behavioural Interviewing, Effective Presentation Skills

Professional Experience

AXESNETWORK SOLUTIONS, Ottawa

2013 - 2014 Web Software Developer

AxesNetwork is a leader in cashless payment systems that has been transitioning into a provider of complete casino management solutions. Its headquarters are in Sherbrooke, Qc.

As part of the Platform team, within the R&D software group, I worked on the cloud-based infrastructure that the entire company depended on.

Retroactively computed 6 years' worth of transactional data into hourly summaries, by studying the logic behind the existing VB.NET logic of each transaction, then writing custom SQL scripts that behaved the same way. I took upon myself to beat our planned estimates by one week, in order to allow for a timely release, and keep a major customer happy.

Designed and implemented a series of web methods to support the creation / management of XML reports following specifications set by the Mexican Gaming Commission. Started with a memory-based, "functional mockup" for both unit testing and early integration testing, then added the DB persistence.

Strongly contributed to the ongoing process transition as the team learned to collaborate across remote offices.

Shared my knowledge of development methodologies with other team members, by helping them come up with their first "user stories", and doing concrete examples of Test-Driven Development.

Professional Experience (cont.)

ONECHIP PHOTONICS, Ottawa

2009 - 2013 *Lead Software Developer*

OneChip Photonics was a start-up company developing low-cost Photonic Integrated Circuits (PICs).

I joined the company as a “one-man software team”, then as the company grew in size, became the acting Team Lead for the “Tests & Measurements Software” group for a few years.

After T&M got big enough to have its own Manager, I mainly focused on the test data handling / reporting, as well as on process improvement.

Implemented several processes (like peer code review) and deployed many development tools (SVN for code control, Confluence for sharing knowledge, JIRA for tracking issues & requests) which remained in use throughout the years.

Worked on the development of 3 different test stations, plus a dozen “helper tools” of all sorts.

Coded & maintained 4 different data-viewing tools (test plotter, bar graph, wafer map, report table), as well as a report launcher that used the 4 others to create a complete web portal. Accessible over the intranet, the Test Portal was regularly consulted by a dozen people who relied on it for many crucial decisions.

Acted as the sole coder / maintainer for the post-processing layer, a library which applied complex calculations on top of our test results.

Was personally responsible of the data integrity of 2 databases (R&D and Production), totalling over 8 million individual device tests.

Taught myself LINQ, which allowed me to put LINQ-to-SQL wrappers around the existing tables. Several team members became accustomed to LINQ through the use of my wrappers.

Designed a whole new DB schema for our tests, based on my acquired knowledge of opto-electronic devices and of our testing needs. I supervised two consultants, helping identify the best technology match for our needs. Afterwards, I taught myself NHibernate from code samples, in order to produce a proper data access layer.

Used XML, XSLT (self-taught) and .NET Reflection in order to create generic, reusable and customizable solutions built on top of specific classes & schemas, such as a “Test Evaluator” which could grade a device based on misc test results.

Designed & implemented, on my own initiative, a “Visual Inspector” tool in Excel that allowed operators to view hi-res pictures and save their inspection results through one consolidated, easy-to-use GUI. That tool became the de facto way of inspecting those images.

Revised an ASP.NET manufacturing WIP application to increase its users’ efficiency. I sat down with its main user, assessing his workflow and his interactions with the application, which allowed me to find many ways to increase productivity.

Professional Experience (cont.)

MACADAMIAN TECHNOLOGIES, Ottawa

2007 - 2009 Project Leader

2003 - 2007 Intermediate Software Developer

Macadamian is a full-service software and design firm with a number of famous customers.

Overall, in my years there, I worked on 18 different projects, for 13 different customers. I acted as “lead developer” or “project leader” on 9 of these.

Throughout the years, I showed a steady desire to improve the processes and methodologies of the company, which even granted me a “Contributor” award (a special bonus granted to a few employees only) two years in a row.

I was also known to consistently establish strong, healthy relationships with customers, in spite of tough schedules and technical challenges, which led to my promotion.

Implemented a web-based portal based on a desktop Business Intelligence application. Coordinated a 15-month effort, involving a team of up to 7 developers (including myself), distributed across 5 different locations worldwide. Along the way, I took corrective measures to ensure that we would ultimately end up meeting our goals, in spite of schedule issues, and that the customer would get what they really needed, as opposed to what they had signed for.

Revised an existing data-management portal to accommodate new requirements. As the sole developer, I completely reworked the data model, ending up with something over three times bigger than the original model.

Investigated our newly-acquired corporate wiki, found many odd uses for it, and provided formal training sessions for my coworkers based on what I learned.

As a member of the in-house “training committee”, collected a bunch of disparate wiki notes into a consolidated, “Developer 101” tutorial.

Pioneered the use of “design patches” as a way to facilitate feature development across distributed teams. The process then became part of other projects.

COREL CORPORATION, Ottawa

2000 - 2002 Intermediate Software Developer

1999 - 2000 Software Developer

1997 - 1998 Co-op Software Developer

Corel is a provider of award-winning software products for both professional and home users.

I worked on the release of versions 8 to 11 of CorelDRAW (on both Windows and MacOS), as well as Corel PHOTO-PAINT 10 and Corel DESIGNER 10.

Implemented VBA automation for several sections of DRAW and PHOTO-PAINT.

Designed and implemented the “Roughen Brush” feature for CorelDRAW 11. I reversed the decision to drop the feature by convincing my manager of the feature’s viability, and then delivered a stable, functional tool, on time.

VIDÉOWAY COMMUNICATIONS, Montréal

1996 - 1996 Co-op Software Developer