

Simon Taylor

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PROFILE

Highly accomplished Solution Architect / Lead Developer with twenty years hands-on development and architecture experience within integration, enterprise application, public facing website and mobile application projects, for blue chip organisations, start-ups and government departments. A wide skill set and flexible attitude, in addition to being a quick learner, mean I have considerable experience of Java (Spring/JEE) and .Net projects and a proven track record of being fundamental to the successful delivery of these projects. In addition to technical ability, my work ethic and attention to detail really set me apart from my peers and are values I aim to encourage in members of the teams I lead.

Currently looking to provide solution architecture, software consultancy and development services through SPT Development Ltd.

KEY SKILLS

- Java (4 - 15), Javascript, C# .NET, Python, SQL
- Spring - Spring Boot, Spring MVC, Spring Security, Spring Integration, Spring Batch, Spring Cloud Config
- JEE - MDB, JMS, EJB, JPA, JAXB, JAXRS, Wildfly, JBoss
- Devops - Jenkins, Maven, Gradle, Ansible, Docker
- AWS - EC2, ECS, Lambda, S3, SQS, Kinesis, DynamoDB, RDS, Route 52, Cloud Front
- Database - Postgres, MySQL, SQLServer, Elasticsearch, Redis, MongoDB
- Testing - JUnit, Mockito, Cucumber, Selenium, Automation, TDD, BDD
- UI - React, Bootstrap, HTML/CSS
- Methodologies - Agile, Scrum, Kanban, SAFe, Waterfall
- Microservices, REST, SOAP, SOA, Enterprise Integration Patterns, Mule ESB, Camel

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE & ASSIGNMENTS

Home Office

Lead Full-Stack Developer (Contract)

June 2020 - Feb 2021

- Led a team responsible for the development of a suite of Spring Boot microservices deployed to AWS, on a multimillion-pound program to replace the Police National Computer and Police National Database.
- Utilised Apache Camel for integrating components within the program and external services provided by other agencies such as the DVLA.
- Built a React front-end for entering and querying highly sensitive information.
- Championed the use of Spring JDBC template as an alternative to JPA/Hibernate to improve the performance of slow running APIs, reducing response time from up to a minute, down to sub-second.
- Reduced the number of defects reported by the QA team by 35% through the introduction of integration tests built using JUnit and Cucumber, that ran as part of the Jenkins CI/CD Pipeline.
- Acted as mentor to junior members of the team.

Her Majesty's Government (BAE)

Lead Developer (Contract)

Apr 2019 - June 2020

- Led a team responsible for the development and maintenance of a Spring Boot microservice providing a REST API for the deployment of packages from a secure network onto an insecure network.
- Championed the introduction of integration tests, making use of JUnit and Cucumber, that ran as part of the Jenkins Pipeline CI build.
- Developed Ansible playbooks for the automated deployment of the Spring Boot microservice and other components of the system such as the ELK stack, Redis and RabbitMQ, to a Docker Swarm.
- Developed Python classes that wrapped and unwrapped messages sent to the insecure network.
- Introduced Spring Cloud Config server for managing the configuration of multiple microservice instances.
- Mentored junior members of the team, encouraged them to take a test-first approach to development and introduced them to the benefits of writing clean code.

Her Majesty's Government (BT)

Senior Developer (Contract)

Aug 2018 - Apr 2019

- Responsible for development, maintenance and compliance of the UI of the most widely used application in the department, built on Spring Boot/Spring MVC with Ext JS [migrating to a] React front-end.
- Built a highly extensible Spring Boot 'formatter' microservice with HTTPS client authentication that converted files from formats such as Visio to PDF for safely displaying the content in the UI.
- Developed an extensive suite of unit tests and integration tests using JUnit and Cucumber and ran them as part of a Jenkins Pipeline CI build.
- Mentored more junior members of the team, introducing them to the latest Java features, the importance of testing and more traditional ways of running an agile team.

Anatwine

Lead Developer (Contract)

May - Aug 2018

- Gave business analysts the ability to configure order extensions via a spreadsheet-based DSL, considerably cutting the costs of new integrations to Nike, JD Sports and other tier one customers.
- Built a Spring Boot configuration service that handled multiple environments, versioning and diffing across environments. Included git integration and integration with Anatwine's single sign on solution.
- The configuration service reduced the number of issues introduced to the production system through incorrectly applied configuration, by 87%.
- Provided technical and architectural guidance to other teams.

Co-op (Capgemini)

Lead Java Developer (Contract)

Apr - May 2018

- Designed and developed a Spring Boot microservice for batch loading 'Colleague Recruitment' reference data received from Oracle Fusion and Oracle Taleo via Oracle Integration Cloud Service (ICS) into MySQL.
- Developed the solution with an API first approach using API Blueprint and Apiary to specify the API and provide early visibility.
- Identified weaknesses in the approach to logging, error handling and the build and deployment process of other microservices and presented the 'Reference Data' service as the reference architecture.
- Built an extensive set of automated component tests using Cucumber to define the behaviour of the API.

Anatwine

Solution Architect (Perm + Contract)

Mar 2014 - Apr 2018

- Member of the original five-man team that took the idea of "Connecting the world's most successful fashion brands to the world's leading fashion retailers" from concept to fruition in four months.
- Architected and developed all areas of the system based on the "hub and spoke" integration pattern with JEE7 (SOAP, MDB, JMS, EJB, JPA) applications deployed to Wildfly, Mule ESB bespoke integration endpoints and later moving away from a monolithic "hub" towards a microservices based architecture.
- Built Mule endpoints for integrating companies such as Superdry, Adidas, Next, Marks & Spencer, Zalando and Amazon onto the Anatwine platform, processing orders worth up to £2M per day.
- Developed a multi-tenant Vendor API endpoint with Spring Boot, Spring Integration and Spring Batch designed to help vendors such as Sunglass Hut integrate with Macy's through the Anatwine system.
- Tuned integration endpoints to meet the target of parsing, validating and staging to S3, product catalogues up to the size of 20G within 5 minutes. YourKit was used for profiling and identifying 'hot spots'.
- Implemented a Staged Event-Driven Architecture (SEDA) with SQS, HornetQ and Message Driven Beans (MDBs) to decompose the stages of the catalogue-processing pipeline and connecting Mule endpoints to core.
- Built an OAuth 2.0 secured REST API with Spring MVC and Spring Security for Anatwine's AngularJS portal, based on the Command Query Responsibility Segregation (CQRS) pattern with a separate Elasticsearch data store.
- Made extensive use of Amazon Web Service (AWS) technologies including RDS, DynamoDB, S3, SQS, EC2, Lambda and Kinesis Firehose, with auto scaling to help build a highly available system supporting high volume.
- Championed best practices such as TDD, CI/CD and peer reviews to help maintain a high-quality codebase, with high test-coverage (+80%) and aid scaling of the team to over 120 employees.
- Responsible for providing technical leadership and mentorship to up to four agile teams at any one time.
- Used Scrum and Kanban agile methodologies for integration and product road map projects respectively.

Various Assignments

Jun 2000 - Mar 2014

- For details of professional experience and assignments prior to February 2013, please see the appendix.

QUALIFICATIONS / CERTIFICATIONS

Microsoft Certified Professional Developer

Apr 2008

- Windows Developer

Sun Certification

Aug 2006

- Sun Certified Programmer for the Java 2 Platform, Standard Edition 5.0

University of Manchester

1997 - 2000

- First Class Bsc (Hons) in Computer Science

Pershore High, Worcestershire

1991 - 1997

- A - Levels - Maths A; Physics B; Computing C; General Studies C
- GCSEs - 9 Subjects including Maths (A*) and English Language (A)

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations from clients, available on request.

APPENDIX

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE & ASSIGNMENTS CONTINUED

IRESS UK Software Engineer (Contract)	Oct 2013 - Mar 2014
HESA Software Consultant (Contract)	Feb - Oct 2013
Pactable Software Consultant (Contract)	Nov - Dec 2012
Greenlife Water Software Consultant (Contract)	May - Nov 2012
Pactable Software Consultant (Contract)	Feb - May 2012
Invitation Digital Lead Developer/Architect (Contract)	Nov 2011 - Feb 2012
Trigger Software Lead Architect (Contract)	Aug - Nov 2011
Infusion (P/T) Software Consultant (Contract)	Aug - Nov 2011
Infusion Software Consultant / Team Lead	Feb 2010 - Aug 2011
Trigger Software Head of Engineering	Aug 2005 - Feb 2010
Cognition Solutions Senior Developer / Team Lead	Jun 2002 - Aug 2005
Logica Software Consultant	Jun 2000 - Jun 2002

FREELANCE ASSIGNMENTS

iFleet Mobile iPhone Developer	Jan 2010 - Aug 2005
SoPublishing ASP.NET Developer	Jun 2009 - Feb 2010
Apress Technical Reviewer	Jun - Dec 2009

For further detail on all of the assignments in this appendix, browse to <https://www.linkedin.com/in/simon-paul-taylor>.