

Dan Friedman
dan (at) danfriedman (dot) org

Professional Summary

- 8 years' build and release automation experience
- Over a decade of hands-on web development and deployment experience
- Passionate build/deployment "best practices" advocate
- Superlative communication and time management skills

Technical Skills

- Build/Release Management: capistrano, maven, ant, cruisecontrol, make
- Programming: perl, bash; some ruby, Java
- OS/Sysadmin: Linux, Mac OS X; some Solaris; basic Windows

Work Experience Highlights

***2008-present: Configuration and Implementation Analyst,
Delivery Support Services
Symcor, Toronto***

Employed in a 24/7 J2EE financial services environment. Concurrently working with multiple project teams to determine configuration and deployment needs, then build out, automate and support deployment across development/QA/UAT/production environments. Additional key accomplishments include:

- Researched and selected open-source automation tools (capistrano/webistrano) for use by the team in improving build/deployment processes for client groups.
- Reduced build/deploy time by 88% on a project through improvements in automation and dependency management.
- Coordinated maintenance windows with infrastructure team for several-hundred-node server farm.
- Selected as *nix platform subject matter expert for interdepartmental cross-platform (Windows/Solaris/Linux/zOS) build/deployment management and release planning project.

2006-2008: Configuration Manager
Novator Systems, Toronto

Championed the introduction of best practices into a legacy Java e-commerce codebase. Reduced the build/release/deployment lifecycle from days of manual work to twenty minutes of automated scripts. Evangelized and collaborated with team leads, management and IT personnel to get process buy-in. Standardized build and release processes for use on development and client delivery teams, while fulfilling ongoing build requests.

- Introduced dependency management (maven) and continuous integration (cruisecontrol);
- automated JUnit test execution;
- supervised/mentored other developers contributing to process development;
- set up synchronized maven repository infrastructure between the Toronto office and production hosting colocations in Canada, the US and India;
- produced custom Debian packages for delivery of release functionality;
- standardized CVS branching and merging policies across development and delivery teams; and,
- led workshops and provided troubleshooting support for users on release and deployment procedures.

2005: IT Lead

2003 - 2004: Web Developer
TransGaming Technologies, Toronto/Ottawa

As IT Lead, led a 3-person team responsible for automation of deployment and system administration tasks for all of the company's internet/intranet servers. Reduced live deployments from hours of manual developer intervention to a single fifteen-second command. Parts of the OO-perl framework developed for this project were presented to the Toronto Perl Mongers:
see <http://boywithmachine.net/perl/talks/TPMApr2005>

Other systems designed and implemented with perl and MySQL on Debian:

- a parser for payment provider financial transaction notices;
- a SOAP validator/watermarker for downloads of video game software; and
- a complete redesign and implementation of the company's e-commerce subscription site and database.

1999 - 2002: Software Developer
computerActive/Renaissance Learning, Ottawa

Part of a small development team that produced a feature-rich (several-hundred-thousand-line) web-based school administration system.

Responsibilities ran the gamut of design and implementation tasks on multiple platforms (Mac OS X, Windows 2000, Solaris) using multiple databases (SQLServer, Oracle, OpenBase) in multiple programming languages (Java, C, Objective-C, perl, Javascript). Major contributions to the project included:

- a highly flexible user permissions system,
- realtime notifications for teachers of outstanding attendance issues,
- a win32 API logging system that allowed remote installations to automatically report bugs back to the company, and
- cross-platform (Mac OS X/Windows 2000) perl packaging and deployment utilities.

***1996 - 1998: Software Developer
North American Media Engines, Toronto/New York***

Java/perl developer/technology researcher for a custom web solution provider:

- redesigned/implemented a legacy perl textbook content management system,
- produced the client-side Java UI for authors of web content, and
- collaborated with third-party developers to provide specialized JavaBeans components for math and science education materials.

Open Source Community Contributions

<http://search.cpan.org/~lamech> - CPAN modules for automating data migration between schemas, and for automatically maintaining a test database during ORM implementation.

YAPC::NA 2005 - Member of the planning committee for a major international perl conference, held in Toronto in late June, 2005; see <http://yapc.org/America>

<http://boywithmachine.net/perl/talks> - presentations delivered at Toronto Perl Mongers and YAPC::NA

Training, Education and Other Interests

Fall 2008: ITIL v3 Foundation certified.

1999-2000: Programming WebObjects I/II, Apple (Cupertino and Toronto)

1993-1997: Bachelor of Fine Arts (Music), York University..

Languages: Fluent English, fluent French, fluent Hebrew.

Other Interests: Aikido, Music