



Ken Mayer

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OBJECTIVE: ENGINEERING POSITION IN A WEB FOCUSED ENTERPRISE

I've done many things in my life and software engineering is just one of them: I'm a licensed sea captain, a SCUBA instructor, and an underwater photographer. I've sailed the East Pacific "gyre" (San Francisco, Mexico, Hawai'i and back), some of it single-handed. I've lived in foreign countries and eaten weird things. In the end, however, I always come back to my geek roots and the challenge of doing something different.

RECENT EXPERIENCE

System Admin, Release Engineer, Web Developer, University of Hawai'i at Manoa — July 2007 - Present

- Ruby on Rails programmer to fix bugs and add features to community collaboration system.
- System support and release engineer for multiyear research grant in ubiquitous wireless computing.
- Updated aging source control and bug tracking system.
- Implemented network & systems configuration management.
- Established & documented a release process, including regression testing, QA acceptance, rollout and rollback through Capistrano, continuous integration through CruiseControl.rb.

SCUBA Instructor, Assistant Manager, various employers around the world — April 2003 - July 2007

- Full time dive shop staffer in Honolulu, Philippines and Thailand.
- Taught classes, sold gear, led charters, managed staff.
- Not your everyday tech job, but it requires skills across many disciplines: physics, physiology, marine biology, meteorology, machinist, web developer, database developer, business owner, personnel management, marketing, sales, education, psychology, and a whole lot of "people skills"

Sabbatical — March 2001 - April 2003

- A two year tour living and sailing aboard my 40-foot sloop.
- I had a network of laptops on board to maintain my web site (before the term "blog" was common).
- During this period I did occasional consulting work for Silicon Valley companies such as Synopsys and Yahoo!

Worldpages.com, Web/Database Application Developer — December 1999 - February 2001

- Web software developer for large (250,000 hits per day) commercial site.
- Received feature requests from management, designed modifications, implemented code in TCL, Oracle SQL & PL/SQL and C, tested and then deployed into the production environment.
- Worked closely with graphic designers and DBA's.
- Made significant improvement in release cycle time and code stability by implementing revision control through CVS. Using custom scripts to deploy code, the release cycle was reduced from an average 3 hours to 30 minutes. In addition, last minute modifications could now take place without fear of breaking the web site.

FreeGate Corp, Developer, Release Engineer, System Admin — September 1996 - June 1999

- Hired as a system and network admin, I was so good at automating things that I soon had nothing to do!
- So I became the release engineer for a software system that includes a complete, customized version of FreeBSD as part of the release.
- Once that was up and running, I still had time on my hands, so I took ownership of modules for SNMP, NTP and automated updates.
- Credited as a contributor to the FreeBSD kernel.

MRJ Corp, System/Network Admin — February 1993 - July 1996

- System and Network administrator for corporate LAN and WAN - 4 primary sites plus several satellite offices.
- Built and maintained corporate firewall.
- Wrote first corporate network security policy.
- Migrated corporation from fragmented “sneaker net” to integrated e-mail, news and file systems.
- Designed LAN topology for new 5-story office complex.
- Designed WAN topology for remote office and mobile dial-up users.

Visix Software, Tech Support, System Admin — April 1990 - January 1993

- Installed, configured and maintained network, including Internet router (first dial-up, then ISDN), news and e-mail servers.
- Maintained parallel Apple Macintosh network that shared e-mail and network file systems.
- Support engineer responsible for porting application development system to various (and sometimes obscure) operating systems.
- Customer support engineer responsible for telephone support, on- and offsite training classes, pre- and post-sales support.

Philadelphia Stock Exchange, Maintenance Engineer — May 1988 - April 1990

- Lead programmer for production system.
- Responsible for complete system software life cycle.
- Delivered five new versions into production during 1989.
- Set record for longest run of failure-free software releases.
- Member of migration team for real-time trading, reporting, and order system. Authored functional requirements and specifications for quotation processing.
- Designed and wrote ticker broadcast program.
- Wrote mail system, capacity test software, and async and bisync line processors.
- Created project management system using dBaseIV. System tracked requests, modification histories, test results, and version documentation

Drexel University, Software Engineer — May 1987 - May 1988

- Designed educational Macintosh software for local and nationwide distribution.
- Delivered two simulators for first year physics course.
- Supervised student co-op programmers working on project.
- Created application shell that reduced development overhead by 50%.
- Designed standard on-line help module. Trained other members in group in MacApp

EDUCATION

University of Pennsylvania — Computer Science

PROFESSIONAL

- Founding member of dc.sage - a Washington, D.C. Unix SysAdmin professional group
- Past board of directors of BayLISA - a Silicon Valley Unix SysAdmin professional group
- Novell CNA
- Certified CM-2 System Administrator (strange, but true)
- US Coast Guard Master (Captain of 50-ton vessels)
- PADI certified SCUBA instructor (Master Scuba Diver Trainer)
- Certified CPR and First Aid instructor