

# Malcolm Tredinnick – Resume

## Details

**Email:** [malcolm@pointy-stick.com](mailto:malcolm@pointy-stick.com)

**Phone (mobile):** +61 422 073 421

**Citizenship:** Australian

## Skills

### *Technical*

Experienced programmer in Python (11 years). Also worked with C (16 years, sporadically) and some Java (5 years). Have experience with Perl and C++ programming (about 5 years each); have not done much of either for six or seven years. Working knowledge of C#, Scheme, Haskell and Fortran, but have not used any of these in commercial environments.

- Experienced Unix systems administrator (15 years experience). Developed and maintained firewall configuration and system security policies, including multi-system security design. Linux user since 1993
- Webserver configuration and optimization: apache, lighttpd, nginx, Squid, memcached
- Developed with a wide number of network communication protocols, both high- and low-level: TCP/IP, X.25, SOAP, XML-RPC, CORBA, Jabber, HTTP, Web-DAV, SSL/TLS.
- Familiar with differences between REST and SOAP-like SOA architectures.
- Concurrent, distributed and asynchronous programming methods.
- Familiar with web application design best practices and the significant web specifications: XML, XSL, HTML, CSS, Javascript, SMIL. Have experience interpreting specification documents (such as W3C specifications) and converting them into code.
- Experienced with usability, internationalization and accessibility requirements.
- Experienced developing against Oracle, Sybase, PostgreSQL, MySQL, SQLite in commercial situations. Acted as database administrator for enterprise-level installations of PostgreSQL and MySQL.
- Familiar with the most common Open Source version control systems: cvs, subversion, bazaar, git, mercurial

Started working with Linux around March 1993 (the first of many 0.99 releases had just come out). Consistent Linux user since then. Some experience in consulting situations with Solaris/SunOS and HP-UX.

### *Business*

Worked in both team and individual situations. Able to supervise others; received good feedback from staff and supervisors about managerial capabilities (both as project manager for 4 – 8 person teams and as department head reporting to CEO).

Confident public speaker (see conference speaking experiences below). Able to talk to both business and technical users. Experience as an educator of both children and adults; can explain

complex problems and break them down into solvable portions. Excellent written communication skills; experienced writer of technical documentation.

Experienced dealing with international companies and customers, having conducted business on-site with clients in the UK, Hong Kong, USA, New Zealand and Singapore.

## ***Open Source Work***

Contributor to Open Source projects in various ways since 1997.

Significant contributions to the GNOME (<http://www.gnome.org/>) desktop project from 1999 – 2004. Contributed code fixes, documentation (for developers), tutorials, online assistance – via mailing lists and IRC – and application design work. GNOME board member in 2004.

Member of the core development team for Django (<http://www.djangoproject.com/>) since March 2006 (having started to use Django in September, 2005). Contributed to all parts of the framework and community.

## **Employment History**

### ***December 2005 – present: Software consultant***

Working independently for a variety of clients, mostly in short-term consulting positions, both locally and internationally. Work has involved systems design, scalability and Django implementations and custom development.

### ***January 2000 – November 2005: CommSecure Ltd.***

**Location:** Sydney and Hong Kong

**Title(s):** Senior Developer / Senior Project Manager / Technical Manager

CommSecure was initially a credit card payments gateway company. The company subsequently (2002) expanded into electronic bill presentment and other payment processing and information presentation areas. Occasional consulting projects were undertaken.

Almost all work done in Python on Linux systems, with occasional pieces of Java or C programming or implementation on Windows or another Unixbased system. All software maintenance and systems administration done internally. Systems had requirements of high security, high availability (and, necessarily, very few or no single points of failure) and, typically, high performance. Resulted in experience in developing software for such systems, as well as identifying appropriate hardware, installation, network configuration and system monitoring to facilitate successful production use.

A small company (normally 10–15 developers and the same number of operations staff, plus a sales and management contingent). Most senior staff are required to wear many hats simultaneously during the course of their work. Roles included system administration, staff management (hiring and firing, performance appraisals, training of operations and development staff), code review and usability testing, helping with initial product design, evaluation and marketing documentation.

## Projects involved with include

January – November 2000:

Development of in-house credit card processing systems; providing customer support for same; providing 24/7 on-call support during early months. Continued to work with these systems during time at CommSecure.

March – October 2000:

Part of a team developing on-line stock exchange trading environment for Macquarie Bank, requiring real-time communications (both information retrieval and trading) with the Australian Stock Exchange. Project canceled without a release in Oct 2000.

November 2000 – December 2001:

Permanent on-site representative based in Hong Kong during a project with HSBC HK. Acted as developer, on-site tester and customer liaison; main development team was back in Sydney. Developed high-performance, highly redundant system to communicate with the Hong Kong Stock Exchange and present real-time stock prices and charts for the HSBC HK web sites. The system typically processed in excess of 500 requests per second for stock price information during market trading hours.

April 2002 – June 2003 (and ongoing):

Provided design assistance and partially filled the quality assurance role for an online bill presentation product developed internally. This included developing a multiple-master database replication application and configuring a high-availability system using commodity hardware (to keep expenses and operational time investment down).

March 2003 – December 2005:

Provided technical consulting and wrote documentation for HSBC US as part of their joint venture with Yahoo. Assisted with design of new products with Yahoo and HSBC engineers and business. Wrote functional requirements, technical documentation and provided code review of the final products.

In April 2004, was project leader on a team to produce a website and the back-end integration between HSBC systems and Yahoo's PayDirect systems. Involved in all phases of this project from requirements gathering, to meeting with the business interests, testing and quality assurance, team staffing and project management. Also managed to squeeze in some coding.

Continued working on related projects as technical lead and project manager until end of CommSecure employment.

May 2005 – present

Following a company reorganization, took over the role of Manager, Development & Operations, in addition to acting as a senior developer. Supervised up to 15 developers and 10 operations staff. Worked as part of the company management team (heads of the three major departments plus CEO and CFO) to set the strategic direction and ensure the smooth day-to-day running of the company. Responsible for maintaining high level of operational support for our products (24x7) and the implementation of new products or enhancements. Responsibilities included budget

creation and management, supervising purchasing, staff management, and representing the technical face of the company to clients and potential clients.

### ***March 2000 – September 2000: Internet Spider, Ltd.***

**Title:** Contractor

Was brought in to assist on an existing project that Internet Spider had been doing with the initial CommSecure founders for HSBC Australia: creating software to provide straight-through (no human interaction) trading to the Australian Stock Exchange. Product was having some performance issues after its initial roll-out (due to popularity with customers). Was part of a team involved in measuring the performance, designing a solution and implementing the necessary code rewrites to work around the bottle-necks.

### ***August 1997 – December 1999: Software Consultant***

Ran own consulting company on a part-time basis, providing on-demand software development and trouble-shooting for both small and large companies. Helped small businesses set up LANs and configure internal system. Wrote small pieces of self-contained software such as mathematical simulations (for an insurance company actuary) and text file conversion software (for a newsletter publisher).

### ***March 1995 – December 1999: Primary and Secondary School Teacher***

Taught mathematics enrichment courses for "gifted and talented" students and chess courses (often as part of curriculum) at a number of Primary and Secondary schools around the greater Sydney area. Also provided casual teaching replacement for teachers on sick-leave or when extra staff were required for school excursions.

### ***February 1993 - November 1996: University Tutor and Lecturer***

Tutoring for mathematics courses – roughly equivalent to a Teaching Assistant in the US system – at Macquarie University (Sydney) during an unfinished attempt at post-graduate studies. Also helped to present lectures in courses to Faculty Of Education students (introductory extension mathematics courses) and to Science students (mathematics).

## **Writing**

A selection of published documents include:

- Regular articles and tutorials on use and development of Django:
  - <http://www.pointy-stick.com/blog/topics/software/django/>
- *GNOME 2.0 porting guide*
  - <http://developer.gnome.org/dotplan/porting/>
- *GNOME Internationalization guide*
  - <http://www.gnome.org/~malcolm/i18n/>
- *Providing Accessibility on The Desktop*
  - <http://www.gnome.org/~malcolm/a11y/>

## Speaking Engagements

Experienced speaker, having given internal training seminars to a number of clients over the years.

Recent public speaking appearances include

- DjangoCon, California, 2008
- linux.conf.au 2001 (Sydney), 2003 (Perth), 2004 (Adelaide), 2005 (Canberra), 2007 (Sydney), 2008 (Melbourne)
- Desktop Developers' Conference, Ottawa, Canada, 2005.
- Object Oriented Special Interest Group, Sydney, 2005.
- GNOME Summit, Boston, USA, 2004
- Linux in Government conference, Adelaide, 2004.
- Sydney Python Interest Group, 2003.
- Ottawa Linux Symposium, 2003.
- Sydney Linux Users Group (1996 – 1999)

## Education

1992: BSc (Hons) from Monash University, Victoria, Australia

- major in Pure Mathematics, minor in Computer Science.