

Simon Knight

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PROFILE

Software testing facilitator with strong leadership and communication skills. Proficient in the delivery of complex systems and software engineering projects using agile methodologies including continuous integration and delivery frameworks.

EXPERTISE & ACHIEVEMENTS

Expert communicator and influencer both in and out of work - conference host, workshop delivery, editor, development and testing community speaker.

Test management, strategic software test planning, execution and reporting, process change and improvement, coaching and development of teams and individuals.

Behaviour and acceptance test driven development and automation (BDD/ATDD) using Ruby, Java and C# continuous integration and deployment frameworks.

Performance and load testing using open source and proprietary tools.

EXPERIENCE

Test Manager, Royal College of Physicians Dec 2013 to Present

Consulting test manager and coach working with the business, IT and supplier teams during the implementation of a Microsoft Dynamics CRM system and Drupal website upgrades. I planned the end-to-end test strategy for the project, recommending systems and defining processes to facilitate delivery of the necessary testing activities. I also coached the IT team in testing approaches and effective utilisation of tools and processes so that on my departure they would have a testing pattern that can be applied in a range of contexts.

Test Architect & Coach, Dunelm Aug 2013 to Dec 2013

The business was struggling with a large continuous integration test suite, so I was brought on board to coach the teams towards a more successful architecture and strategy. Within a short space of time I had won their confidence by demonstrating knowledge and leading by example. I then successfully implemented process changes by influencing the development, analyst and product teams, subsequently helping to deliver a presentation about our journey at the agile community focused *Agile Derby* event.

Lead Software Developer in Test (SDET), Admin-Re May to Aug 2013

Working with an agile team delivering web services for an externally facing pensions management platform, I delivered the C# BDD test automation layer thereby enabling regular and reliable deployment of the codebase to the wider project team.

Software Developer in Test (SDET), Wiggle Dec 2012 to May 2013

During a major change cycle the customer-facing web development and operations team required Ruby BDD test automation skills in order to facilitate a bi-weekly continuous delivery schedule. I helped the team to achieve their goals by building an intelligent and effective integration-test automation suite that could be executed quickly and reliably whenever it was needed. I also made improvements that enabled faster development feedback by utilising grid technology and parallel execution.

Performance Engineer, Technophobia - Dec 2010 to Dec 2012

Though initially engaged in a performance testing capacity for a government web portal project, I also acted as the test lead for a NHS data warehousing project for the majority of my 2 year tenure. As the senior tester on a medium size test team, I was able to add significant value by coaching the more junior members and assisting with the recruitment of skilled resources.

Test Lead, Homeserve - Nov 2009 to Dec 2010

Building upon my experience of working in a range of organisations, I took responsibility for the planning and delivery of testing for a variety of systems implementation projects including Oracle Financials and an Avaya telephony upgrade, utilising both on and offshore resources in order to do so.

Test Lead, FocusFrame - Sept 2008 to June 2009

I joined FocusFrame (latterly Hexaware) as a junior consultant and quickly learned to enjoy the fast paced and competitive environments in which I worked; initially at SarahLee delivering accelerated Quick Test Pro automation and then ABN AMRO working with their risk management team on transaction monitoring software.

Analyst, Accenture - July 2006 to Sept 2007

While studying for my degree in forensic computing I worked as a data migration analyst and tester for Accenture. My exposure to what some in the testing community refer to as *factory* methods set me on a path towards craftsmanship that I have pursued ever since.

EDUCATION

2:1 BEng (Hons) Forensic Computing, Staffordshire Uni - 2004 to 2008

Training - Rapid Software Testing, Agile Testing, Coaching Testers, Session Based Test Management, Non-Violent Communication, Web Application Security Testing, Mobile Testing

Certifications - HP Accredited Systems Engineer, ISTQB Software Testing

SKILLS

Ruby, C#, Java, Continuous Integration, Continuous Delivery, Jenkins, JMeter, NeoLoad, Cucumber, Selenium WebDriver, BDD, ATDD, SoapUI, QuickTest Pro, Quality Center, Jira, Visual Studio, SpecFlow, SQL, Oracle, SQL Server, Informatica, Linux, WebSphere, ClearQuest, SAP, Siebel, Mobile, Automation, Agile, Waterfall, Systems Thinking, Modelling, Communicating, Influencing, Leadership, Coaching.