



Benedict Francis

Chief Technology Officer

Award-winning technology lead with expertise in rapid prototyping of technical software

Winchester
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(Relocating to France)

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Summary

Repeated success guiding IT strategy with established and emerging technologies to achieve maximum operational impact with minimum resource expenditure. Talent for launching programmes related to digital software development and creation of mobile app solutions for a range of clients, including SMEs and blue-chip global corporations. Exemplary in leading start-up organisations, building and motivating full-stack teams, encompassing creative and technically proficient project managers and designers. Independently versed in forming solutions to create a sustainable advantage, whilst adapting quickly to change and driving operational excellence in competitive markets.

Highlights of Expertise

- Strategic & Tactical Technology Planning
- Solution Implementation & Optimisation
- IT & Software Development
- Design & Process Optimisation
- Full Lifecycle Project Management
- Solution Design & Programming
- Service Delivery Management
- Strategic High-Level IT Consultancy
- Stakeholder Engagement
- Relationship Building & Management

Career Experience

Jan 2014 - Present

Digital Director | Tribe Studios, Winchester, UK

Deliver executive-level leadership across internet, programming, consultancy and technical strategy development in addition to audio and graphic design. Independently build strong relationships with a diverse range of organisations and local companies to define the digital route to market for clients nationally and globally via applications, software, creative direction and technical strategy, with high client retention rates.

- Recovered an underperforming healthcare mobile app project for TalisLife to fully rebrand the company, redevelop the app and roll-out to obtain funding.
- Revamped a corporate website for CARBOGEN AMCIS, with CMS to improve corporate presence and deliver an employment system for global recruitment.
- Enhanced the user experience (UX) for Ideal Kit UK using Magento to create an eCommerce platform with go-live planned in Q1/2020.

Apr 2016 - Jul 2016

Chief Technology Officer | Dash Audio, London, UK

Held accountable for creating a rapid podcast system prototype to promote brands using ground-breaking audio technology and integrated analytics. Partnered with CEO to present to clients and sell podcast release services specifically to the Wall Street Journal and Spotify (NY, USA) and the UK News Corp publications.

- Played an integral role in shaping and governing the technical roadmap and increasing revenue by securing new clients and users.
- Guaranteed first-class services, high security and best practice in solution development, with ongoing technical and quality reviews.

Sep 2014 - Apr 2016

Head of Technology | Remarkable Group, Winchester, UK

Facilitated consultancy services, specialising in leadership and transformation of concepts into results-driven solutions. Focused on transforming a failing online holiday booking project for the client Shorefield as a consultant and rebuilding a fractured client relationship using open and honest communication.

- Drove profitability through monetisation of group digital offering to a large customer portfolio, transforming over-budget projects into rapid deployments.
- Expanded offering with additional services for existing and prospective clients including app development and virtual/augmented reality services.

Mar 2013 - Sep 2014

Chief Technology Officer | Dints International, London, UK

Spearheaded the successful delivery of innovative supply chain solutions to the international mining and construction industries. Formed strategic plans to transition to a more efficient cloud-based solution, orchestrating a team of software developers and company IT infrastructure.

- Successfully conceptualised and built a mining purchasing system prototype with an audit trail for North Africa operations.
- Enabled major funding acting as project lead to deliver a global customer portal and social platform for a mining and engineering client.
- Secured a new start-up client with the remit to build a reporting app and implement new corporate ERP solution in MS Navision.

Sep 2010 - Mar 2013

Head of Software & Development | Monitise/Mobile Money Network, London, UK

Joined a start-up organisation with backing from both Visa and Carphone Warehouse to establish a market leading mCommerce service. Built a development team from scratch to collaboratively deliver 10 iPhone/Android apps whilst independently shaping functional strategies and BAU support for processes.

- Saved the company a significant £3m in licensing and development costs using rapid prototyping and proof-of-concept development.
- Maximised mobile and desktop applications to create public and corporate facing internet solutions for media partners.
- Enabled online and high street sales with the successful design and deployment of an automated purchasing system.
- Successfully prepared business for full eCommerce roll-out whilst guaranteeing ongoing advancement in a hybrid marketplace.

Jul 2002 - Jun 2012

Technical & Digital Director | Artizanz /TheMediaSet, Winchester, UK

Actively consulted on design and technical services, leading sales from concept to build and delivery in a multi-partner retail market place. Completed multimedia assignments requiring expertise in technical design, lifecycle project management, installation and handover with end user training.

- Introduced fine art as a new offering to complement existing design and technical services on mobile development and internet projects.
- Formulated an interactive web service for the healthcare division of Haymarket Publishing to enable sales to global pharmaceutical corporates.
- Facilitated ability to meet the requirements of different global Haymarket brands using a new, easily tailored interactive detailing tool.
- Drove the business to win the 'New Business of the Year' award at the Hampshire Business Awards.
- Won the Sony Multi-Channel Content Software Award sponsored by INM and Adobe for a newly designed CD toolkit for dual-branded marketing.

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

Professional Skills, Education, Training and Awards

Soft skills:

Global project management; team management and leadership; budgeting; account management; design; consultancy; business development; business strategy, stakeholder engagement; sales processes; strategic planning; relationship building; client liaison and management

Digital and creative proficiencies:

PHP Programming; HTML Programming; HTML5 & CSS3; ReactJS; React Native; Mobile finance payments; Mobile design & delivery; JavaScript (inc frameworks/libraries: jQuery, Angular, Node etc); Ajax; eCommerce Platform Development; Financial Technology (FinTech); Business & IT Strategy; CMS Systems (Joomla, WordPress, Drupal); MySQL Databases; Design (Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign etc); Audio Composition & Production; Audio Production; Print Design; XML, XSLT, XHTML; Facebook Applications / fCommerce; Email Templates & Marketing; Computer Hardware Installation and Repair; Copywriting; User Experience / Interface Design; Mobile Web Development; Mobile Marketing; Social Media Marketing; Search Engine Optimisation; Digital Strategy; Mobile Application Development (iOS, Android); Security Implementation (IPSec/SSL etc); SMS & MMS Marketing and Software; Linux and Apache Management; 3D Design; Video Production / Editing; Photography; Music Inscription

Languages:

English - native; French - conversational; Rosetta Stone, Units 1-20 French Language

Education:

MSc (Hons) Computer Science, BSc (Hons) Computer Science - Cardiff University, Wales
3 A-Levels - Havant College, UK
11 GCSEs - British School of Paris, France