Valentinos Papasavvas

Personal Details

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Driving Licence:	Yes		

Personal Profile

Motivated Lead PHP Developer, always seeking for challenges and progress at work. Having experience in developing quality codes for high traffic and complex web apps along with coaching teams to grow as One Team and achieve individual the targets we set, I consider myself a competitive candidate in the sector.

Employment

Head of Engineering at SMS.to, Cyprus   09/2021 – Current

THE ROLE: Leading and coaching remote teams on one of the biggest products of the company along with other smaller products the company has, ensuring the design and delivery of high quality, robust software solutions while adhering to predefined timescales and budgets.

RESPONSIBILITIES:
- Allocate resources, manage expectations and performance, and drive team efficiencies
- Manage the use of technology stacks and ensures that team members grow their knowledge base, by utilizing Online courses and additional professional development
- Participate in the hiring and onboarding process
- Work with other business units to analyze trends and product needs for continues product improvement
- Enhance engineering efficiency by closely observing the team and identify opportunities
- Provide mentorship and technical guidance to teammates
- Own development projects from conception through build, testing, implementation and support ensuring they meet business needs.
- Identifying bottlenecks on the systems and try and find the cause through various APM tools
- Manage QA resources to ensure through testing of all code before release. Utilising automated testing where possible.

Software Development Manager at Mindgeek, Cyprus   09/2019 – 09/2021

THE ROLE: Leading and coaching teams on some of the biggest products of the company along with other internal products the company has, ensuring the design and delivery of high quality, robust software solutions while adhering to predefined timescales and budgets.

RESPONSIBILITIES:
- Allocate resources, manage expectations and performance, and drive team efficiencies
- Manage the use of technology stacks and ensures that team members grow their knowledge base, by utilizing Online courses and additional professional development
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- Manage QA resources to ensure through testing of all code before release. Utilising automated testing where possible.

Lead PHP Developer at Mindgeek, Cyprus   09/2017 – 09/2019

THE ROLE: Responsible for coaching a team that deals with one of the biggest products of the company along with other internal products the company has, providing continuous feedback, suggesting potential improvements, working closing with the product department.

RESPONSIBILITIES:
- Setting a sustainable pace to deliver the completed, tested, integrated, production ready software
- Analyse processes in order to provide solutions
- Providing continues feedback to the team
- Making regular meetings with Seniors to improve the process of the team
- Making bi-weekly meetings with the team to discuss the Sprint process and what we can do better
- Dealing with issues that block the Sprint process
- Suggesting new technologies to improve and optimize the services a product uses
- Split the deliverable into stages and make small releases.
- Perform code review and detrermine recommendations for adaptation
- Pair programming to approach a problem with different opinions

Senior PHP Developer at Mindgeek, Cyprus   01/2017 – 09/2017

THE ROLE: Responsible for maintaining the products the company has, collaborate with the team for potential improvements, involve in project management.

RESPONSIBILITIES:
- Setting a sustainable pace to deliver the completed, tested, integrated, production ready software
- Analyse processes in order to provide solutions
- Team collaboration in Cyprus and Germany
- Split the deliverable into stages and make small releases.
- Perform code verification and detrermine recommendations for adaptation
- Pair programming to approach a problem with different opinions

Senior PHP Programmer at Approved Food, Sheffield   08/2016 – 11/2016

THE ROLE: Responsible for the internal picking system, collaborate with the team for potential improvements, involve in project management.

RESPONSIBILITIES:
- Setting a sustainable pace to deliver the completed, tested, integrated, production ready software
- Split the current system into Microservices written in Laravel Framework that will consume an API, written in Lumen Framework
- Reviewing new technologies and making suggestions for possible improvements in the system
- Collaborate with the people in the warehouse to understand the needs of the system
- Split the deliverable into stages and make small releases
- Undertake merge requests for code improvement
- Implement unit and integration tests
- Pair programming to approach a problem with different opinions

Senior Web Developer/iOS Developer at Llama Digital, Sheffield   04/2014 – 08/2016

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THE ROLE: Collaborate with others to deliver quality code, involved in project management, provision of guidance and improvements in the process of delivering a feature/product to a client.

RESPONSIBILITIES:
- Stand up meetings to keep up to date with the process of each person in the team
- Implement unit testing - TDD for the developers to be aware if they accidentally break a feature and BDD for the clients to understand what we tested for the deliverable based on the User Stories
- Suggest new technologies and solutions to be used based on client requirements for the best result
- Communicate with the clients and understand their requirements
- Split the deliverable into stages to show each stage to the client to see the progress for feedback
- Meet the deadlines inside the team by dividing and analysing each point of a project/feature
- Refactor whenever is needed to keep the project quality and security up to date
- Pair programming to approach a problem with different opinions
- Develop and maintain the company's main mobile Application called Situate on iOS
- Work on various type of big projects of the company based on PHP MVC Framework
- Use merge requests for core review

Web Developer at Llama Digital, Sheffield   01/2012 – 04/2014

THE ROLE: Started as Graduate Web Developer, I was involved in learning and developing in all CMS of the company. I was later trained with PHP Zend Framework to collaborate with developers and project management teams to deliver quality codes.

RESPONSIBILITIES:
- Pair with a team and work on big projects based on PHP Zend Framework
- Maintain and support CMS of the company (Drupal 6,7, MODx Evolution/Revolution, Magento E-commerce, Wordpress)
- Convert legacy code into a quality structure code
- Started using version control

ADSL Technical Support Assistant at CYTA, Paphos, Cyprus   2008 - 2009

Military service at Cyprus National Guard   07/2004 - 08/2006

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IT Skills

Operating Systems: Highly competent in using Windows and Ubuntu.

Version Control: Highly competent in Git. Use of it in every project to version control and create relevant branches for each feature/bug/hotfix. Also use of capistrano to deploy the code to different servers (review,production). Use of merge requests between the team to improve the quality of the code.

Microsoft Office: Excellent knowledge and experience using all advanced features of MS Office

Certificates: Zend Framework: Fundamentals Course   **Languages:** English (Working proficiency)
                      iOS iPhone & iPad Apps Development   Greek: (Native)

CMS frameworks: Drupal 6,7   **Applications:** Created two Facebook apps
                      MODx(Evolution and Revolution)   Mid-knowledge of Facebook PHP API
                      Magento E-Commerce
                      Wordpress

Skills:

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PHP OO MVC	Vagrant	Less/Sass	Capistrano
Zend Frameworks	Ansible	Mobile Responsive Design	Project Management
Laravel Framework	Bash Script	Twitter Bootstrap 3	Scrum
Lumen MicroFramework	mySQL	Javascript OO	Bower
Phpunit Testing	Oracle SQL	jQuery	REST API
Behat Testing	Git Version Control	CSS/CSS3	Paypal API Payments
PHP Resque	Amazon Services (SES,SNS,S3 etc)	HTML/HTML5	Sagepay Payments
Linux	Google Analytics	Grunt	iOS
Automated Deployments	Google Goals/Funnels	Node JS	iBeacon Frameworks
Rabbit MQ	Agile process	AJAX	Cocos2D framework

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Education/Qualifications

MSc Database Professional   Sheffield Hallam University (2011 – 2012)

Degree Grade: First Class Honours (73.2 / 100)   **Final Year Project Grade**: 76 / 100

Modules include:
Databases & the Web, Data Warehousing, Industrial Expertise, IT Project Management, Logical Database Development, Physical Database Design & Administration, Web Application Design & Modelling

MSc Thesis Title: "Investigation of Column-Based Databases Performance against Relational Databases"

BSc (Hons) Computer Science   University of Crete (2006 – 2010)

Degree Grade: 6.76 / 10   **Final Year Project Grade**: 9 / 10

Modules include:
Data Structures, Object-Oriented Programming, Mathematics, Computer Organization, Software Technology Laboratory, Computer Networks, Languages & Compilers, Operating Systems, Algorithms & Complexity

Final Year Project Title: "Design of Parallelization of the single-node Oracle/Berkeley Database through the use of a Distributed Coordination Service (Borealis)"

A' Lyceum Ethnarchi Makariou, Paphos, Cyprus   (2001 – 2004)

Apolyterion Grade: **19 / 20 (95%)**

Final Year Modules:
Advanced Mathematics, Advanced Computing, Advanced Physics, Advanced Modern Greek, Advanced Office Practice, Civics, English, Italian, Gymnastics, History, Religion

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Other Qualifications

Hack Manchester   (2015)

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- Won the The Barclays/Rise Challenge by creating the best use of beacons for the Rise community on https://youtu.be/YvBy7DBaesk?t=1247 we are on the final 3 for rentalcars.com competition and On https://youtu.be/YvBy7DBaesk?t=2188 we are on the final 3 for Rise Challenge and win the big prizes

Hack Manchester – Companies Challenge Winner **(2012)**
- Won the Best Company Award (with the Llama Squad LTD.) for our Automate Time Tracker web application

Pan-Cyprian Students Programming Olympiad (PSPO) **(2004)**
- Finished in the top 10

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Activities and Interests

Daily search for new advances in technology	Cycling
Cooking and tasting different cuisines	Gym
Attending car meetings and events	Travelling in various countries
Configuration of Linux systems	Troubleshooting PCs and laptops

More information can be found on my site regarding portfolio, up to date experience etc.

References on request.