

# James Johann Sullivan

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I am a developer and a general geek with a passion to use software and IT to improve the lives of people and society. I enjoy using what I've learnt to improve the environment I work and live in while tackling the newest problem to come across my sight. To me IT is an amazing new tool and I aim to use it to improve all I can. After 60 years we're only just now starting to see what we can do with it and I want to push it forward.

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## Leadership

During the Integrated Provider Information project for the Tertiary Education Commission I took the opportunity to take on the responsibilities of the team lead role. This included making sure the other developers had enough to do and were not getting stuck on things as well as staying across interactions between the users and the client. Through taking advantage of this opportunity we were able to meet the very tight timeframes required of this project with minimal surprises.

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## Interpersonal Communication

Whenever starting a new project at InterGen I often end up working with a client I had not done any previous work with. This means I have to quickly build a working relationship where both I and the client could feel comfortable and confident that any ideas or issues brought up would be dealt with constructively and quickly. The Integrated Provider Information project is a great example for this as we built a tightly knit team across the client, contractors, and two vendors. Throughout the project I made sure to push the idea we were one team together and not just independent groups.

On recent projects I have spent much time trying to pass on the knowledge and experiences I have gained. I have done this not only through one on one work with junior developers but also through in depth presentations to teams as a whole.

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## Maintainability

Being able to maintain the solutions we build is an extremely important part of development. To make solutions easier and cheaper to maintain we need to have explicit focus on them. For an enhancements project for the Tertiary Education Commission on the Industry Training Register I created a developer setup document for the solution that included all the steps needed to go from an empty OS environment to a running solution. This ended up saving us over 3 developer weeks of effort as people were brought into the project.

A following project called Integrated Provider Information I created a developer setup document as well as automated build and deployment scripts. These scripts meant that at any point a developer could run a script to check that everything worked as it should or deploy the solution to the test systems. These were put to the test when a new developer was brought on half way during a tranche of work and they were able to get the code ready and working end to end within 4 hours.

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## Focus on the User

As software is going to be used by people creating good and useful software requires a focus on the user. At the beginning of an NZ Police project I helped run a design workshop with the client with the explicit aim to make something the frontline user would want to use. We were able to meet this requirement with later feedback detailing of 40 year Police veterans racing each other with the system by the end of a single training session.

On a project for the Tertiary Education Commission we had a requirement to use Excel worksheets as the data entry interface. By examining what was available we were able to identify a design that would not only create a usable system involving Excel as an interface but also make it robust, fit in with existing procedures, and improve their business by having the users want to use the system.

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## Decision Making

On a recent project for the Tertiary Education Commission I was involved in a major project where I took ownership of much of the .NET design and all the build and deployment automation. This required me to make decisions that would affect how other members of the team would interact with these components and how they were built. In the process of making these decisions I had to weigh the technical and usability pros and cons for end users and other developers.

Another project I worked on for the University of New South Wales, we had a very short turn around and required several architectural decisions made on a web application UI I was tasked to make from scratch. This pushed me to not only make decisions but be willing to defend the decisions during any review of the code.

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## Technical Experience

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**.NET** For the past 6 years I have been developing with C# across all projects using technologies such as ASP.NET MVC, Entity Framework, PowerShell, SignalR, .NET Compact Framework, WCF, WPF, and Silverlight.

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**Javascript** Over the past 5 years many projects have required the use of Javascript with most use being through the JQuery framework to assist with development of web applications. I have also recently begun integrating SignalR into projects where appropriate

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**SQL** Almost all the projects I have done since University have also made use of SQL databases either through the use of ORM layers such as .NET's Entity Framework and Ruby's ActiveRecord or through direct SQL execution.

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**Ruby on Rails** For side projects I have mainly focused on Ruby on Rails which I also used during my time at Sharesight.

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## Employment History

**Intergen: July 2014 – Current**  
*Intermediate Software Developer*

**Intergen: January 2012 – June 2014**  
*Junior Software Developer*

**Intergen: August 2010 – December 2011**  
*Graduate Software Developer*

**Wellington District Court: June 2012**  
*Jury Foreperson*

**Sharesight: November 2009 -- June 2010**  
*Junior Software Developer*

**Xero: November 2008 -- March 2009**  
*Junior Software Developer*

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## Qualifications and Awards

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### Intergen

2014

Won Central Region Project of the Year

Nominated for Central Region Team Player of the Year

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### Victoria University of Wellington

Bachelor of Information Technology

Major in Software Engineering

Second Class, Second Division Honours

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## Education History

**2010 – 2011**

Goethe Institute

**February 2006 - February 2010:**

Victoria University of Wellington

**September 2003 - December 2005:**

Wellington College

**2001 - June 2003:**

Bishop O'Connell High School

Arlington, Virginia

United States of America

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