

Summary of Experience

This is a précis of the [summary I have placed in LinkedIn, and at my blogⁱ](#).

Since 2001, I have played lead and architect roles in various J2EE initiatives. Earlier experience, from 1994 on, includes development in other environments (C, C++, Visual Basic), after sales customer service, quality assurance, and technical editing. The breadth, and longevity of my experience has made me a solid generalist, bolstered by good analytical, and communication skills.

My responsibilities as a *System Architect* have included research and choice of technologies; large-grained and detailed design; training, and mentoring programming, business analysis, and QA resources; coding high risk, and complex work; agile project planning, and delivery; empowering management and business stakeholders with education about technology choices, design decisions, and implementation issues.

The bulk of the work has been in P & C insurance, with a couple of years in the real estate appraisals industry.

I have done considerable business analysis work, informed by knowledge gained during my tenures in quality assurance, technical editing, and customer service – learn to separate pure business requirements, the essence of the business, from all considerations of the technical solution. This work has also sensitized me to the value of user experience, and usability. As suggested in [these blog postsⁱⁱ](#), I believe that [user experience in the enterpriseⁱⁱⁱ](#) is more than just the graphical user interface that a [business user^{iv}](#) sees.

I believe in the need for, and the possibility of, [quality in software engineering^v](#), while remaining aware of the many practical, and legitimate obstacles to achieving that goal. I am familiar with common object-oriented design patterns, and best practices, and am able to write simple, and clear code.

Finally, I am [cognizant of some of the challenges and strengths of out-sourced development^{vi}](#), having lived in India, been an offshore resource myself, and having worked in the U.S. with offshore resources.

Technologies

Presentation	HTML, CSS, Javascript, DWR, JSF, JSP, WebMacro, WebWork
Infrastructure	Spring Core, Spring Security, Apache Commons, Google Guava, Log4j, EJB session beans, JMS, JBoss MQ.
Service Layer	Java, JBoss Rules (Drools)
Data access layer	Hibernate, Oracle, SQL Server, Container Managed Transactions, JTA transactions, JDBC transactions
Text-based search	Apache Solr, Lucene
Web Services	JAX-WS, Apache CXF, Apache Axis; JAX-RS, Jersey, RESTEasy
Developer testing	Junit, Junit Perf, Cactus, JMock, Mockito, Groovy
Workflow management	JBPM, Workflow Management Reference Model
Application Server	JBoss 3x, JBoss AS 4.x, JBoss AS 7
Software Configuration Management	ANT, Maven, Subversion, CA-Harvest, Git, Groovy (Some project automation)
Business Analysis, Specification	UML (Sparx Enterprise Architect), Wireframes (Balsamiq)

Employment history

October 2006 to April 2013

Jarus Technologies, Inc. *System Architect*

Consulted as lead engineer at Farmers Alliance Insurance Co., helping them in their effort to move away from a mainframe-based legacy system to a J2EE system. Worked on pre-sales, and development of Jarus' mobile solutions for P & C insurance.

July 2005 to October 2006

Nationwide Appraisal Services Co. *System Architect*

Introduced agile project planning techniques, and was lead engineer on new development, and maintenance work related to NASCO's in-house J2EE information system.

December 2002 to April 2005

SEEC, Inc. *Technical Project Manager*

Consulted as Senior Software Engineer on Nationwide Appraisal Services' development of an in-house J2EE information system. Consulted as business analyst, and project-cordinator at Banker's Life, Inc. Worked on several J2EE projects related to SEEC's own products.

February 2000 to November 2002

SEEC Technologies Asia, Pvt. Ltd. *QA Lead, Technical Project Manager*

QA lead for all of SEEC's product lines. Later was team lead of the UI development effort for SEEC AXCESS, a J2EE web portal that SEEC was developing for insurance agents. Also involved in other miscellaneous Java development.

September 1994 to December 1999

SEEC, Inc. *Software Engineer*

Consulted as software engineer at Whitfield Software Services, doing C, C++ development on their projects belonging to Microsoft, and DEC. I was part of the after sales customer service team at SEEC for a year. In addition I did miscellaneous development work at SEEC, notable of which was lot of scripting with Visual Basic for Access, and Mercury's automated test scripting language.

Education

- B.A., Computer Science, State University of New York, Potsdam, NY.
- M.S., Computer Science, West Chester University, West Chester, PA (incomplete, pending thesis submission)

March, 2013 to April, 2013

Jarus Technologies, Inc. ***System Architect***

Primarily worked with Jarus' mobile solutions for P & C companies.

- Did maintenance on the Java implementation of Jarus' REST API for P & C.

The API was implemented with JBoss' implementation of *JAX-RS*, called *RESTEasy*. Tested the API with the *Client API in Jersey*, the reference implementation of *JAX-RS*. Deployment was on *JBoss 7*.

- Did *pre-sales* work with Jarus' business development team.

Created presentations on the technical aspects of Jarus' mobile solutions.

Visited prospective customers, made presentations, and helped them formulate customizations that were appropriate to their environment.

Tools and Technologies

- Java, Javascript
- JAX-RS, Sun Jersey, JBoss RESTEasy

October, 2006 to February, 2013

Jarus Technologies, Inc. ***System Architect***

Consultant at **Farmer's Alliance Insurance Co.** helping them with their long-standing effort to move off the mainframe to a J2EE centric, web-based platform.

Since, April 2009, all of my work was part of building a new Policy Administration system, called Compass.

Generally, I played a lead engineer role, which included these responsibilities.

- Large grained architectural decisions – choosing tools, and technologies, determining large-grained system structure.
- Technical analysis, fine-grained design, and construction on critical, and infrastructure aspects of the applications.
- Business analysis on several projects
- Mentoring, and overseeing engineering team, including business analysts, and testers, both on-shore, and offshore.
- Empower the client's IT team with education about technologies, design decisions, implementation considerations, and transparent, pragmatic, and flexible (agile) project planning, and tracking.

Business Functions

In particular, my team and I largely developed, and supported these slices of functionality.

- A central, 'contact' (all persons, and organizations that interacted with the insurance company) management system
- Web based endorsement of Personal Auto policies
- Integration of policies with billing workflows
- A system to create and manage business tasks, built on top of *JBPM*.
- A text-based search of contacts, and policies, built with *Lucene*, and *Apache Solr*.
- Application security – roles, and permissions, built on top of *Spring Security*
- Migrate all legacy documents from the mainframe (*OnDemand*), to server based system (*Acrosoft*)

Cross cutting, platform considerations

- Designed the structure of the code base for Compass - layered the code to achieve 'separation of concerns'.

Later, essentially improved the structure, by identifying layers that could be consolidated.

- Heavily involved in *Software Configuration Management*.
 - Created and maintained the initial build system – *ANT*, with *Maven 2* for dependency management.

- Later, I helped move Compass to an all *Maven 2* build system.
- Helped introduce *Subversion* into the work.
- Did some *project automation* work with *ANT*, and *Groovy* – checkout, check-in, tagging, build, and release to Maven repository.

This involved *Subversion*, and *CA Harvest*, the other source control system in our environment.

- Responsible for choosing several of the tools we used.
 - *JBPM* for workflow management
 - *Lucene*, and *Apache Solr*, for text-based search
 - *ANT*, *Maven*, and *Subversion* for SCM (software configuration management)
- Primary developer on risky, application-wide, re-factorings, cleanup, and code reduction.

Soup to Nuts

On several development tasks, I was the sole resource. The work included everything.

- Business Analysis

Spoke to end-users and nailed down pure business requirements, taking care not to bleed into technical solutions.

A lot of the communication was in *UML* (activity diagrams, and state diagrams mostly), created with *Enterprise Architect*. Also included a fair amount of writing, and presentations, in *WORD*, and *Powerpoint*.

- Technical analysis, and solution specification, including UI design

Conversations regarding UI design used UML state diagrams, wireframes created with *Balsamiq*, and HTML mockups.

- Construction, including developer testing

Developer testing was primarily on backend code, and used *Junit*, and *JunitPerf*. Some *Groovy* tests too.

- Documentation, and presentations, for testers and business folks.

A lot of *WORD*, and *Powerpoint*.

Support

Helped with Help Desk tickets and such. However, other, dedicated resources did the heavy lifting in this regard.

Project Management

- We were *Agile* in this respect – release small vertical slices of functionality, frequently. Depending on the project, our iterations were between 2 to 6 weeks, with most of them being about 4.
- Project estimation, and tracking happened in *MS Project*.
- Issue tracking, and task incubation happened in *Bugzilla*.

Tools and Technologies

Broadly, all of the work belonged to the J2EE world, running on JBoss AS.

Specifically, I used the tools given below for various purposes, and to various degrees of depth.

Category	Tools
Presentation – client side	HTML, CSS, Javascript, DWR for Ajax
Presentation - server side	JSF, JSP
Infrastructure	Spring Core
Application Security	Spring Security
Service Layer	Java, JBoss Rules (Drools)
Data access layer	Hibernate, Oracle, JDBC Transactions
Text-based search	Apache Solr, Lucene
Logging	Apache Commons Logging, Log4j
Web Services	Apache CXF
Developer testing	Junit, Junit Perf, Groovy
Productivity frameworks	Apache Commons, Google Guava
Workflow management	JBPM
Application Server	JBoss AS 4.x, JBoss AS 7
Build Management / Project Automation	ANT, Maven, Groovy
Business Analysis, and Solution Specification	UML (Sparx Enterprise Architect), Wireframes (Balsamiq)

July, 2005 to October, 2006 Nationwide Appraisal Services Co. **System Architect**

Generally played a leadership role that included mentoring, designing, and coding. I was primary resource on several complex and high-risk tasks.

- Introduced *Agile* practices in planning, estimation, and execution. This included *user stories*, *story points*, and *iterations*.
- Created coding and design standards. Introduced use of Sun's J2EE patterns – the Blue Print documents.
- Unit testing with *Junit*, *Jmock*, and *Cactus*.
- Primary resource for maintaining the build system. This was initially all *ANT*, and we later moved to *Maven*.
- Served as primary resource for *JBoss* on various issues. Manage clustering, with session replication; setup high availability *JNDI*, *JMS*, and *EJB*; Manage the *JCA* layer, and *JTA* transactions.
- Primary resource for adding distributed transactions (controlled database and JMS activity) to the in-house J2EE system. Tools to manage included the *JBoss Transaction Manager*, *Apache Torque O/R* mapping layer, Data Direct JDBC driver for SQL Server, and SQL Server.
 - Created a Jboss patch to make available DataDirect's database side timeout to Jboss.
- Rewrote document generation, and distribution sub-system.
- Participated in day to day production support

Tools and Technologies

Presentation	HTML, CSS, Javascript, JSP, WebMacro, WebWork
Infrastructure	Spring Core, Commons Logging, Log4j, EJB Session beans
Service Layer	Java, Drools
Messaging	JMS, Jboss MQ
Data access layer	Apache Torque, Hibernate, SQL Server, Container Managed Transactions, Distributed transactions
Web Services	Apache CXF, Apache Axis
Developer testing	Junit, JMock, Apache Cactus
Productivity frameworks	Apache Commons
Application Server	JBoss AS 3.x
Build Management / Project Automation	ANT, Maven
Business Analysis, Specification	UML

April, 2004 to May, 2005

SEEC, Inc. ***Technical Project Manager***

Consulted with **Nationwide Appraisal Services Co**, as a Senior Software Engineer. In July 2005, I switched over to being an employee of Nationwide, in a similar role, but with added authority.

The work description for my tenure as a System Architect at Nationwide, [available above](#), applies here.

Dec, 2003 to Mar, 2004

SEEC, Inc. ***Technical Project Manager***

Consulted at **Banker's Life**, working on their Customer Service Portal – a web application wrapper around disparate legacy systems.

- Developed an automated build and deploy process.
- Primary liaison between client's users and SEEC developers. Managed users' expectations to match what SEEC can deliver.
- Performed systems analysis and develop user and detailed specifications of the Customer Service Portal
- Participated in design of system architecture, and user interface.
- Did acceptance testing of the delivered system

Tools and Technologies

Presentation	HTML, CSS, Javascript, JSP
Service Layer	Java, Component Builder from SEEC, Inc.
Servers	Apache HTTP server, Apache Tomcat
Build Management / Project Automation	ANT
Business Analysis, Specification	Documented in WORD, and Excel.

May, 2003 to Nov, 2003

SEEC, Inc. ***Technical Project Manager***

Worked on miscellaneous development tasks.

- Migrated SEEC's Customer Service data from Onyx to Salesforce. Designed and coded the XML-RPC clients that pushed the data over.
- Enhance Asera's Order Management application to accept faxed purchase orders. Designed and coded the translator that converts data in the electronic fax into Asera's XML framework.
- Designed and coded a prototype of a rapid application generator that generated Asera Business Objects from DB2 data beans which are stored in SEEC's Component Builder
- Develop a framework for the generation of User Interface storyboards from SEEC's proprietary specification of a form. We took SEEC's tags and produced documents in HTML, XML, JSP, etc.

Tools and Technologies

- Java, JINI, JSP, log4j, Apache Jakarta regular expression library
- XML-RPC, Salesforce XML-RPC interface.
- IBM DB2, IBM Websphere
- Asera E-Business Server, Excel, SEEC's Component Builder

Dec, 2002 to April, 2003

SEEC, Inc. ***Technical Project Manager***

I was SEEC's on-site business analyst at **Bankers Life**. I worked on their effort to build a web interface around several disparate, host-based, legacy Customer Service applications, in order to reduce training costs for Level 1 Customer Service representatives.

- I elicited, and documented business requirements, and the solution specification.
- I was the primary liaison between client and developers, and managed client's expectations to match what SEEC could deliver.
- Helped acceptance test the delivered application.

May, 2001 to Nov, 2002

SEEC Technologies Asia Pvt. Ltd.
Technical Project Manager

Served as a team lead on several development initiatives.

- Prototyped the use of SEEC's Integration Components with various workflow technologies.
 - Evaluated the Workflow Management Coalition's Workflow Reference Model.
 - Implemented a homegrown workflow system using JSP, Servlets, XML, and XSLT.
 - Prototyped Asera's E-Business Operating System for workflow management.
- Led UI development on SEEC AXCESS, a P & C Insurance Agency portal
 - Reviewed specifications, and did preliminary detailed design.
 - Trained and led UI team - UI was in Java, JSP, HTML, JavaScript and some XSLT.
 - Was the build manager
 - Trained SEEC's Business Analysts on the rule engine, OPS/J.

Tools and Technologies

Presentation	HTML, Javascript, XML, XSLT, JSP
Service Layer	Java, OPS/J
Data access layer	IBM DB2
Developer testing	Junit
Server	Apache HTTP server, Apache Tomcat, IBM WebSphere
Build Management	IBM Visual Age for Java

Feb, 2000 to April, 2001

SEEC Technologies Asia Pvt. Ltd.
QA Manager

I was the testing lead for all of SEEC's product line.

- Devise a testing process and incorporate this into SEEC's development life cycle.
- Lead the testing group. The duties included interviewing and hiring testers; training testers; planning and creating testing work, both manual and automated, and managing their execution.
- Participate in the reviews of specifications of the various development projects.
- Take responsibility for the technical accuracy of the documentation. This involved technical writing and technical editing.

Tools and Technologies

- Mercury Interactive's Winrunner, TestDirector, and Test Scripting Language
- COBOL, SEEC Products- Mosaic Studio, Application Designer, Component Builder, Component Builder- Host

Sep, 1994 to Dec, 1999

SEEC Inc. *Software Engineer*

This tenure included a year's worth of after sales customer service, and the rest as a Software Engineer, at SEEC, and as a consultant with Whitfield Software Services, working on various problems, and with various technologies.

- Created text processing tools, reporting tools, and automated test suites with a variety of scripting languages.
 - Visual Basic for Access,
 - WinEdit
 - Mercury's Test Scripting Language
- Wrote C++ test suites for Microsoft's ODBC specification
- Several porting, and maintenance efforts involving DEC's software and hardware
 - Ported DEC's SQL Engine from BLISS to C
 - Maintenance on DEC's SQL Engine, and RDB
 - Ported an insurance package from VAX to Alpha hardware
- Reverse engineered and documented legacy COBOL applications using OMT (Object Modeling Technique)

ⁱ <http://www.seonthemon.com/wp351/professional-summary-interests-goals/>

ⁱⁱ <http://www.seonthemon.com/wp351/tag/user-experience/>

ⁱⁱⁱ <http://www.seonthemon.com/wp351/2013/06/25/user-experience-in-an-enterprise-system/>

^{iv} <http://www.seonthemon.com/wp351/2013/07/26/user-experience-for-business-employees/>

^v <http://www.seonthemon.com/wp351/2013/04/13/i-want-to-create-software-that-is-like-tom-binh-bags/>

^{vi} <http://www.seonthemon.com/wp351/2013/05/30/look-to-the-culture-luke/>