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I enjoy creating useful Internet projects, both as work and as a hobby

Tech stack

- My strongest professional skill—PHP
  - And framework of choice is Symfony
    - Got introduced to it on an existing e-commerce platform at Intexsys, used later for replacing legacy email subscription management system with a shiny new one.
    - Used for a new service for retrieving road closures data from various APIs at Mappost.
    - Placewatch, my pet project and technical playground, runs on Symfony as well.
  - Used Laravel at Printify, Zend Framework at Mogo, Slim Framework at Car Rental Gateway.
  - Wrote a standalone library with plugins for Laravel and Yii2 at Printful.
  - In early years, reinvented the wheel by creating my own framework for Zurbu. Who didn't?
- Databases
  - Relational ones like MySQL and PostgreSQL. That's ubiquitous.
  - NoSQL, too: ElasticSearch, Redis, MongoDB…
  - Did anyone say embedded? Placewatch data export is based on SQLite.
- Message queues
  - RabbitMQ. First met at Intexsys, used extensively for creating internal publish-subscribe library at Printful. The latter also included Protobuf serialization.
  - Used PostgreSQL for simpler queues at Placewatch.
- Infrastructure
  - Docker. Almost everywhere nowadays.
  - Configured Placewatch servers with Ansible.
  - Implemented deployments with Bitbucket Pipelines at Mappost, and GitHub Actions at Placewatch.
- Even though I'm more of a back-end person, I maintain some interest in front-end, too
  - HTML and CSS—often happy to see new features get more green boxes at caniuse.com.
  - JavaScript—less of an expert here but still able to do a thing or two.
- Stepping out of a comfort zone
  - Used NodeJS for a new microservice at Car Rental Gateway.
  - Wrote some Java code using Spring Framework for a legacy microservice at Printify.
  - Played around with Go for Placewatch.
  - Created a very basic but useful Android app for Placewatch.

Communication

- Migrated existing Mappost codebase from SVN to Git—few simple commands, lots of explaining, introducing Gitflow-based processes, mentoring, and other people skills.
- IT Micro was a small company with lots of integrations. 10 countries, 33 mobile carriers, 10 languages, 19 APIs used for carrier lookups, WAP billing, SMS sending and receiving—apart from technical flexibility, this also required constant external communication.
- Agile, Scrum. Captain Obvious asked me to write this line.
- As a company owner, I am able to work on B2B contracts.

Languages

- I am fluent in English, Russian and Latvian.
- Able to read, write basic texts and hold everyday conversations in German.
- Generally curious about unfamiliar ones. Once even implemented an API integration using documentation in Romanian at Mogo.

Timeline

	Jobs	Personal projects	Education
	All of them as a back-end developer in Riga, Latvia, unless noted otherwise	An urban-themed play in four acts	Made my first steps in IT at school and Progmeistars, self-taught afterwards
2023	*Car Rental Gateway* Tartu, Estonia (hybrid) A car rental aggregator	*Placewatch* A platform about places that are about to change.	
2022	*Printful*		
2021	A print on demand system		
	Mappost A task planning and route optimization system		
2020	*Printify*		
2019	A print on demand system		
2018	*Mogo* An international vehicle leasing system	*"The Talks on Riga"* A well-established old-school meeting place for people interested in history and development of Riga.	
2017	*Intexsys* A multi-website US-based e-commerce platform		
…			
2014			
2013		*Zurbu* A moonshot at creating a platform for local history blogs and forums worldwide.	
	IT Micro SMS-based quiz and chat games and lotteries		
…			
2010			
2009			*University of Latvia* History
2008	*True Vision* front-end Corporate websites, online stores		*University of Latvia* Law
2007		*"Riga. History and Sights"* A school project on octocentenary of Riga that evolved into a popular history blog, gallery of old maps, and a forum.	*Riga Secondary School №40*
	freelance front-end, SEO		
2006			
2005			*Progmeistars* Pascal, basics of programming
2004			
2003			
…			
2001			
…			
1996			