

# Daniel Donovan

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## Objective

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Apply my management experience, leadership ability, strong software development background, entrepreneurial nature, and expertise delivering innovative software products in a technology leadership position creating exceptional solutions.

## Skills and Qualifications

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- Natural leader with significant experience building and managing development teams
- Strong business aptitude and entrepreneurial nature
- Highly analytical, exceptional ability to quickly grasp problems and envision solutions
- Unique ability to bridge the gap between the technical and business stakeholders
- Extremely motivated self-starter; have developed multiple new products from the ground up using Microsoft platform (ASP.NET, IIS, SQL Server, ASP.NET AJAX, MVC)
- Proficient in ASP.NET, C#, ASP.NET AJAX, MVC, jQuery, NHibernate, SQL Server, C/C++
- Strong in XML, HTML, CSS, Javascript, working knowledge of PHP, Java, VB
- Student of software project management & development methodologies (see Readings)
- Excellent understanding of Object Oriented design, including unit tests and refactoring

## Education

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### Level II Candidate in the CFA (Chartered Financial Analyst) Program

- Passed Level I of the CFA program in December, 2009

### Master of Business, Entrepreneurship and Technology (<http://cbet.uwaterloo.ca/mbet/>) University of Waterloo, Waterloo, ON *Completion: August 2007*

- Finalist: RBC Next Great Innovator Challenge (5<sup>th</sup> place out of over 100 entries)
- Recipient of the MBET Faculty / Staff Scholarship

### Bachelor of Applied Science: Computer Engineering / Mechatronics Option, Co-op Program University of Waterloo, Waterloo, ON *Completion: April 2002*

- Completed final year with Excellent Academic Standing
- Academic All-Canadian award recipient as member of Varsity Football Team

## Employment Experience

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### Manager, Product Development

Porter Airlines Inc., Toronto, ON

*October 2008 - Present*

- Responsible for building and managing a rapidly growing team from the ground up
- Over 18 months, have recruited and hired a 9 person team, consisting of software developers, web developers, quality assurance, and project management
- Setup Microsoft development platform & project management framework, integrating Visual Studio, NUnit, FogBugz, Subversion, CruiseControl.NET
- Established code standards, lead architecture designs, implemented automated testing policies, created release procedures, and architected common code library
- Managed re-architecture of flyporter.com ecommerce site to ASP.NET MVC framework, handling over \$100 million/year of flight bookings
- Worked with marketing team to increase website visits by approximately 125%
- Launched new web check-in functionality which doubled online check-in counts
- Successfully delivered numerous other web, integration and reporting projects

- Worked with senior management to develop high-level project plan, release schedule and resource allocation for fiscal year
- Successfully shifted development of multiple applications from external contractors to in-house resources, saving company over \$300,000 annually
- Mentor and coach junior team members on all aspects of software development

**Founder, HealthSpoke Inc.***January 2007 - October 2008*

- Recruited and lead a team of two developers to develop online portal for health practitioners, built on Microsoft platform with C#, ASP.NET, NHibernate, SQL Server
- Personally lead architecture and database design, implemented much of the code
- Implemented TDD using NUnit & WatiN, setup automated builds with CruiseControl.NET
- Successfully launched application in less than 8 months from start-up
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: LaunchPad \$50K Venture Creation Challenge, 2007

**Sales and Applications Engineer****ATS Automation Tooling Systems, Cambridge, ON** *March 2005 - August 2006*

- Successfully established relationships with internal customers at ATS business units
- Responsible for sales of over \$1 million in automation equipment to internal units
- Conducted technical sales presentations; lead user requirement gathering, produced detailed specifications; estimated development effort and generated quotations

**Control Systems Developer****ATS Automation Tooling Systems, Cambridge, ON** *May 2002 - March 2005*

- Responsible for development and maintenance of complex real-time machine control software system used by Systems Integrators to program automated equipment
- Platform: User Interface - Windows, MFC, C/C++; Machine Controller: QNX, C/C++
- Assigned role of lead developer for major project to develop second generation system
- Given responsibility of mentoring other developers, including more senior personnel
- Improved development processes by introducing CVS, Bugzilla and Agile techniques

**University of Waterloo Co-op Work Experience**

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**Control Systems Developer (Co-op - 3 terms)****ATS Automation Tooling Systems, Cambridge, ON** *May 2000 - May 2002*

- Independent development and delivery of two Windows-based applications (MFC/C++)
  - ATS FTP: Custom FTP client application
  - ATS Touch Keyboard: Touch-screen software keyboard w/deep OS level hooks

**Software Developer, Test Engineering (Co-op)****Research In Motion, Waterloo, ON** *September 1999 - December 1999*

- Developed department Intranet site to collect and display test results with ASP / HTML
- Created application to automatically update manufacturing configuration files (C++)

**Junior IT Analyst (Co-op)****Waterloo Maple Inc., Waterloo, ON** *January 1999 - April 1999*

- Primary response to internal Help Desk issues, computer trouble shooting
- Took initiative to develop Help Desk management system integrated with Outlook

**Systems Administrator (Co-op)****Chudleigh's Apple Farm and Bakery, Milton, ON** *May 1998 - August 1998*

- Provided in-house administration and network support; created corporate web site

## Awards and Interests

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- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, LaunchPad \$50k Venture Creation Challenge - Waterloo, 2007
- Finalist, RBC Next Great Innovator Challenge - Royal Bank, 2007
- MBET Faculty / Staff Scholarship - University of Waterloo, 2006
- Age Group Medal Winner - Triathlon / Marathon, 2005-2006
- Academic All-Canadian - Waterloo Warriors Varsity Football Team, 2001-2002
- Outstanding Graduating Senior - Waterloo Warriors Varsity Football Team, 2002
- Engineering Entrance Scholarship - University of Waterloo, 1997
- Principal's Award - Brother Andre C.H.S., 1997
  - Awarded for "outstanding contributions to all aspects of the school community while fulfilling academic potential."
- Academic Athlete of the Year - Brother Andre C.H.S., 1997
- Athlete of the Year - Brother Andre C.H.S., 1996

## Readings

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As mentioned above, I am a student of software development, particularly the principles and techniques of software project management. Throughout my career as a developer, founder of a start-up, and now as a Development Manager, I have read numerous books on these topics. I have listed a few of my favourites below:

- **The Mythical Man-Month: Essays on Software Engineering**  
This is the classic book on software project management, and the nonlinear economies of scale on software teams.
- **Rapid Development**  
Another classic on software scheduling and estimation, this book contains great insight from an expert who worked on some of the biggest projects of the 1980s and 90s.
- **The Pragmatic Programmer: From Journeyman to Master**  
One of my favourites, this book introduced me to a whole new world of development tools and techniques, and helped me move from a "coder" to "developer".
- **Ship It!: A Practical Guide to Successful Software Projects**  
This nice easy read provides a set of best-practices that should be standard for any professional software development team.
- **Extreme Programming Explained: Embrace Change**  
Written by the father of XP, this book eloquently captures many of the best practices that allow effective teams to ship great code.
- **Test Driven Development: By Example**  
I have been practicing Test-Driven Development ever since reading this book.
- **Refactoring: Improving the Design of Existing Code**  
Another book that helped take my development skills to a new level, this book should be on every programmer's must-read list.
- **Joel on Software** (<http://www.joelonsoftware.com>)  
While I haven't read his books, I have read just about every article on the site. It is filled with excellent articles on everything related to developing great software from how to write specs to running a beta test.