# 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 are 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.<br><br>I have also shown leadership through quick responses and management of client project relations when the unexpected has happened. A recent example of this was during work with a client and another vendor I noticed confusion in email communication. I quickly called for a meeting that same day and we cleared up all the confusion between all parties. The client was pleased for the clarification and my project manager was happy to see everything had been sorted before they even had had time to read the initial call for a meeting. |
| **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.<br><br>More recently I have spent a lot of time passing on lessons from the knowledge and experiences I have gained. I have done this through one on one reviews with developers and more in depth presentations to teams as a whole. This has included such topics as build and deployment automation and improving solution maintainability. |
| **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. |

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| | I have been involved in the long term support of multiple solutions. I have worked with clients to triage issues and decide how to organize my time to deliver fixes in a reliable way. |
| **Solution 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.<br><br>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. They were able to get the code ready and working end to end within 4 hours. With their first code changes happening before the end of the day. |
| **Focus on the User** | As software is going to be used by people, creating good and useful software requires a focus on the user. 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.<br><br>This focus on the user experience had the result that after a major feature release over a weekend we had users actively using it on a Monday morning; when they only had to use it a week later. |

## 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. |
| **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 |
| **PowerShell** | Through my work in improving automation of solutions I have built many PowerShell scripts. From moving files around to creating and modifying websites and Windows services. |
| **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. |
| **Ruby on Rails** | For side projects I have mainly focused on Ruby on Rails which I also used during my time at Sharesight. This helps expose me to other ways of building software that I have brought back into my day to day development. |

| Employment History | **Intergen:** | **July 2014 – Current** |
| | *Intermediate Software Developer* | |
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| | **Intergen:** | **January 2012 – June 2014** |
| | *Junior Software Developer* | |
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| | **Intergen:** | **August 2010 – December 2011** |
| | *Graduate Software Developer* | |
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| | **Wellington District Court:** | **June 2012** |
| | *Jury Foreperson* | |
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| | **Sharesight:** | **November 2009 -- June 2010** |
| | *Junior Software Developer* | |
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| | **Xero:** | **November 2008 -- March 2009** |
| | *Junior Software Developer* | |

# Qualifications and Awards

### Intergen

2014
> Won Central Region Project of the Year
> Nominated for Central Region Team Player of the Year

### Victoria University of Wellington

Bachelor of Information Technology
Major in Software Engineering
Second Class, Second Division Honours

# Education History

| **2010 – 2011** | *Goethe Institute* |
| | Wellington, New Zealand |
| **February 2006 - February 2010:** | *Victoria University of Wellington* |
| | Wellington, New Zealand |
| **September 2003 - December 2005:** | *Wellington College* |
| | Wellington, New Zealand |
| **2001 - June 2003:** | *Bishop O'Connell High School* |
| | Virginia, United States of America |