

! Design. Code. Test.

Software Engineering Insights From The Real World

Shout Questions Out

There's no point holding on to them until the end

Quick Bio

- Name: Jonathan Giles
- Age: 26 years old
- Occupation: Software engineer

Introduction

Until January, I lived in New Zealand



Introduction

But then I moved to Australia...

For one year only



Introduction

Unsurprisingly, I live in Brisbane



Introduction

But I work for Oracle,
based in California.

They don't care where I live in
the world.

They just care that I do my
job.



Introduction

ORACLE®

Introduction



JavaTM

Introduction



Introduction: Education



MASSEY UNIVERSITY

BE

2003-2006

MSc

2007

SCJP

2009

Introduction

- I have always worked remotely:
 - Centruflow
 - Novix
 - Sun Microsystems / Oracle Corp
- I have no 'in-office' experience.

Teams

Be nice to them – you'll need them

Teams: Personalities

- Everyone is different
- Dream team: A good balance of personalities / skills
- Jerks
 - Don't be one
 - Don't take them to heart
- Saying no



Teams: Working Together

- Be:
 - Friendly
 - Responsive
 - Reliable
 - Clear
 - Consistent

Teams: Communication

- Options:
 - Email
 - Phone
 - Skype
- Inter-personal skills

Teams: Being remote

- My work schedule:
 - 6:00am – midday for team interactions
 - Midday – 5pm for ‘quiet time’
 - I often work Saturday and Monday
- 3am meetings once a week (today)
- Onsite meetings are very useful
- Key point: be willing to be flexible



Teams: Bosses



Teams: Bosses

- Your boss is your way up – don't lose his faith
- Depend on your boss to be your filter
- Let them know the truth
 - Don't go behind their backs
- Make them look good



Teams: Seniority

- Be realistic – you're new to the industry
- Make your goals clear to those whose job you desire
- Let them let you ride their coattails
 - Prove yourself
 - Be hardworking
 - Be innovative

Teams: Hiring

- Opposite side of the fence: I interview candidates
- I want (in order of importance):
 - Ability to work in a team
 - Ability to communicate
 - Hard working
 - Intelligent
 - Friendly
- 'Brain Teaser' interviews



NATURAL SELECTION

It can be tampered with.

Systems

Sometimes a process is a good thing
(but don't tell anyone I said that)

Systems: People

- Weekly meetings
- Agile approach with sprints every two weeks



Systems: Technology

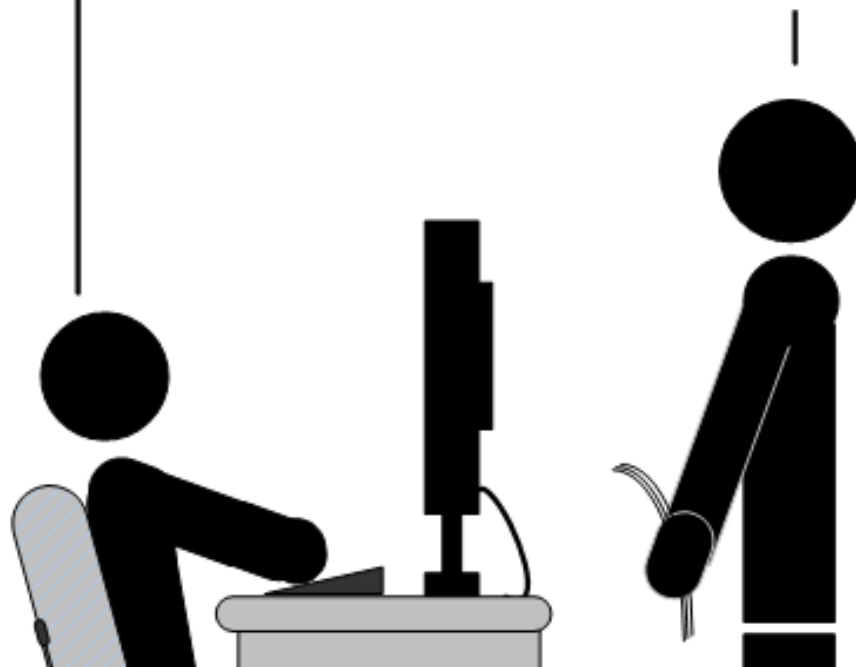
- Distributed version control system: Mercurial
- Bug tracker: Jira
- Unit tests: JUnit
- Continuous integration: Hudson

Personal Brand

How to land your next job

WHAT'S WRONG? MY BLOG CLEARLY
STATES THAT THE VIEWS EXPRESSED ARE
MY OWN AND NOT THOSE OF MY EMPLOYER.

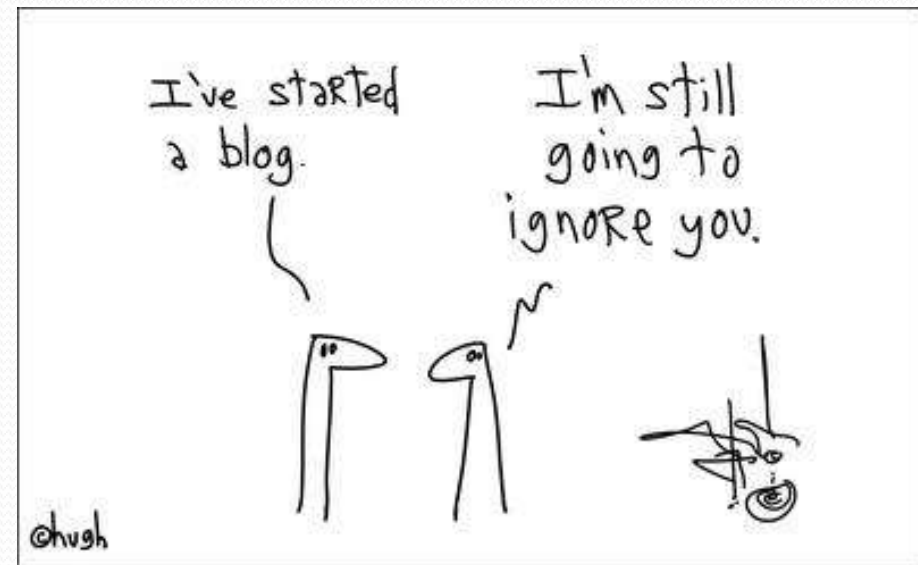
THE FACT THAT THEY ARE
YOUR VIEWS AND PEOPLE
KNOW WE EMPLOY YOU
ANYWAY IS THE ISSUE.



You don't need to be representing
your company to reflect poorly on it.

Personal Brand: Online

- Building
 - Blogs / personal websites
 - Twitter
 - Open source



- Think carefully about what you say online

Personal Brand: Offline

- Socialise with relevant user groups
- Push yourself
 - Public presenting
 - Conferences
- Use your spare time wisely



Personal Brand



- www.jonathangiles.net
- Personal Blog
 - Opportunity to show skills and areas of interest

Personal Brand



JavaFX News, Demos & Insight

FX EXPERIENCE

- www.fxexperience.com
- Blog run by three JavaFX team members:
 - Richard Bair - Architect
 - Jasper Potts – Samples & Blueprints
 - Jonathan Giles – UI Controls

Personal Brand

- People always ask “How did Oracle hear about you?”
- Because I was:
 - Talkative,
 - Not afraid to email them,
 - Showing my code off
- Who would you hire?

Summary

You can be a terrific software engineer,
but without a personality you'll only get so far.

Work hard to have a good balance.

Thanks for letting me bore you

Jonathan Giles

jonathan@jonathangiles.net

<http://www.jonathangiles.net>

@JonathanGiles