

Curriculum Vitae

Gary Benner

ITCP, MIITP, CAT

Tauranga, New Zealand



Personal Details:

Full Name Gary Trevor Benner
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New Zealand
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Marital yes
Children Five
Date of Birth 15/9/1953
Place of Birth Te Puke, New Zealand
Nationality New Zealand
Health Excellent



Formal Education:

Primary Pongakawa Primary School (1958 - 1965)
Secondary Te Puke High School (1965 - 1970)
School Certificate, University Entrance (Accredited),
B Bursary
Tertiary Canterbury University (Christchurch) (1971 – 1972)
Certificate in Adult Teaching (Waiariki Institute of Technology)

ITCP – Information Technology Certified Professional.

Member of the Institute of IT Professionals NZ (MIITP – formerly NZ Computer Society).

Personal Interests

Sports: Golf, tennis, water sports, skiing, tramping
Reading: Technology, e-Learning, natural health, meditation
Music: Piano, guitar, singing (Barbershop and modern)
Genealogy: Member NZ Society of Genealogists

I have also worked with special needs children, and continue supporting a number of charitable organisations.

Overview of Skills

Communication

I have excellent people skills, with the ability and confidence to address large audiences. I am able to deal with impromptu speaking engagements, and comfortable with a wide range of topics. I am also able to demonstrate with Powerpoint and Video presentations and I am in a position to author my own material, including video, animations, and text.

Computer Systems Analysis, Design & Implementation

I have the skills in dealing with customers needs, and translating that into a well-formed Systems Requirements document, as well as producing a logical analysis of a client's current situation and future needs.

I have worked as a programmer and trainer of programmers since 1978, using assembler, C, Pascal, Delphi, C#, PHP, ASP and .NET languages and frameworks, as well as Javascript, HTML5, and CSS. I have also skills and experience with databases of all persuasions.

An area of speciality is Internet related systems, with Firewall and Server Clustering technology my favourite. I have created a number of High Availability configurations, and have presented my designs at overseas conferences. In NZ I have had a paper on Server Clusters published in the BACIT Journal. I have also developed considerable skills with both Microsoft and the Linux Operating Systems, and related technologies for web hosting, DNS, firewalls, VPN's, and the ongoing management of email and SMS technologies.

Training and Tutoring

Eight years teaching personal development skills around the world, two years in NZ High Schools, six years of teaching professional software development courses for companies such as Borland New Zealand (Delphi, .NET etc), and seven years as a tutor at the Waiariki institute of Technology BCS degree programme. I have developed skills in e-Learning, with an emphasis on the creation of online course material delivered using the Moodle Learning Management System.

Web Application Design and Development

I have been involved with the development of a number of high profile e-Commerce websites, and maintain a Web Server Array with ongoing skill development in that area. My speciality is in object oriented designs, with an emphasis on the integration of content (HTML5), layout (CSS) and behaviour (Javascript). I've developed skills with PHP, Python, Javascript libraries such as JQuery, Mootools, YUI, and Dojo. Where high-security was required, I have designed and developed a number of systems with Multi-Tier implementation using Web Services architectures, encryption, and HTTPS.

Electronic and Computer Systems Design

I have skills in converting a business requirement into a practical implementation, utilising current and future technologies. I maintain a working knowledge of all tools I currently deal with, by attending courses, and through personal study and experimentation. Many of my technology-based designs have been in use for periods in excess of 12 years, indicating an ability to produce practical and successful designs.

Software and Hardware Implementation

My skills here involve two areas. The first is related to PC based business applications, where I have specialised in the Borland Development tools (Delphi,

Pascal, C++, Java, C# and .NET) since the release of Turbo Pascal v1.0 for the CP/M operating system. I have subsequently worked as a trainer for these tools. I have maintained my skills in the evolving products from Borland and Microsoft (Web, Servers and Networking), and in particular the latest products, which include Delphi, Interbase & Firebird, MSSQL Server, Postgres and MySQL, as well as the Internet related networking technologies, .NET and Web Services.

The second area is in the development of micro-controller based electronic products. In some applications, the PC based software needs a real-world interface, and my electronic development skills have played a major part in providing a complete solution for clients.

Graphics

I have a good grasp in visual and graphics design, and my natural talent has been of great use in much of my work, in particular screen design, documentation and presentations. I can work with Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator, Fireworks, Flash, and a variety of lesser known tools.

e-Learning Tools

I have a working knowledge of Camtasia, Articulate, and Storyline, and have my own equipment for audio and video creation and post production.

Management

I have founded and managed a number of companies, with staff levels up to 26.

Leadership

I tend to lead from the front, providing motivation for the people working alongside and under my control.

Languages

English is my first Language. I have lived in Spain and learned conversational Spanish. I have also studied French, German, and Maori, and have limited conversational capabilities in these languages.

Work History

2011 – now

Onlearn Limited

Director and Manager. E-learning, Training.

Onlearn provides Hosting and Support services for organisations requiring an online Learning management System. Onlearn provides a turnkey solution, from server hosting and support, training, and content development. Services involve the use of open source products such as Moodle, Mahara, Wordpress, Joomla, Drupal, and Koha.

Clients have included:

- Auckland District Health Board
- Northland District Health Board
- Health Alliance (DHB Support)
- NZ Blood Service
- Procure Health (PHO)
- BUPA (Retirement Care)
- SPELD
- Dietitians Board
- PGG Wrightson
- Toyota Finance
- TSB Bank
- NZ Transport Authority
- Bayleys Real Estate
- Fitzroy Engineering (Taranaki)
- Northland Polytech
- Taranaki Polytech (WITT)
- NZ School of Education
- Les Mills
- Livestock Improvement Corporation
- Craigs Investment Partners

2007 – now

Disaster Warning Systems Limited

Founder, Technical Director, and inventor of the TSUNADO Public Alerting System, used in alerting and communicating with the general public in times of disaster.

TSUNADO is now being incorporated into the New Zealand Civil Defence systems, and is shortly to be exported to countries in the "Ring of Fire".

<http://www.tsunado.com>



2007 - now

Semantic Limited, Tauranga

Director and Manager. Software and Consultancy.

Semantic provides software design, development and consultancy services.

Clients include:

- **Fitec** – High Impact Learning System
- **Horizon Networks** – Asset Management Software, SMS messaging
- **Tendercare** - Laundromate Automation
- **GHD** – Online Multi-Criteria Analysis Tool, Virtual Team Manager
- **Bay Scrap** – Client Scheduling
- **Colourplus** – Online Pricebook app.
- **MediaWeb** – Online Media Content Manager
- **Tauranga Airshow** – Airshow Management System
- **Wings over Wairarapa** – Airshow Management System
- **Sharkpatrol** – Online Credit Management Network
- **InsolvencyWatch** – Online integration with NZ Companies Office live data



<http://www.semantic.co.nz>

1996 - now

123 Internet Limited

Founded 123 Internet Ltd along with Webdata Ltd, a specialised web hosting business based in Auckland. This facility now runs a array of seventeen servers hosting a number of high profile websites. Our specialty is managed hosting with High Availability configurations using Linux Clusters.



<http://www.123.net.nz>

2004 - 2010

Truewines



Technology Manager to the Truewines & Wineday Online e-Commerce sites. This has involved creating a Multi -Supplier e-Commerce engine with a patented "Returns System". Truewines represents over 120 Wineries locally and overseas.



1994 - 2007

Waste Management - Sunshine Garden Bags Ltd, Auckland

Developed the Sunshine system technology ,which includes a sophisticated Route Management and Accounting System, and integrated IVR system, and integrated remote web hosting. Also responsible for the ongoing operation of their site systems (PC's), servers (three), Linux Firewall, integrated IVR Telephony System, and website. WAM have now integrated all the features of this system into their own AS/400 systems.

<http://www.sunshinebags.co.nz>

2002 - 2009



Waiariki Institute of Technology.

2002 - Contracted as a part time lecturer for the School of Business and Computing - in the degree programme for Information Technology.

2003/2009 – Taken on to teach Web Application Development, Data Communications and Networking, GUI programming for level 6 & 7 students in the degree programme, Webmaster Technical, and Object Oriented design. Participated in the move to online presentation of course material, with the advent of the Waiariki “e-Campus” system using Moodle, an open source system for educational organisations. Undertook the Novell Administrators course, and promoted the use of Linux in teaching and administrative applications.

In 2005 I organised and ran the first Moodle Conference (aka Moodle Moot) in New Zealand, with almost 200 attendees.



2003 - now

Derceto (Beca Applied Technology Limited)

Acted as a software architect and consultant, and subsequently programmer trainer for their Derceto project which optimises power usage for Water utilities in the USA, UK, and Australia. Also provide consultancy for the operation of their overseas web hosting.

<http://www.derceto.com>

1999 - 2006

Borland®

Borland New Zealand

Contracted to Borland New Zealand to teach Borland Delphi & .NET Training courses around New Zealand. Clients have included: Fisher and Paykel (Mosgiel), NZQA (Wgtn), SMSS (Wgtn), Livestock Improvement Corp (Ruakura), Clear Communications (Auckland), Massey University (Palmerston North), Foodstuffs, and many Public Courses.

I founded the (Borland) Delphi User Group in 1994, and have managed that since that time. The user group currently has over 230 members.

2000 - 2005

Sommnet.com Ltd

sommnet.com
digital drinks media

Developed a large format news and information website with a full publishing system for the wine industry worldwide. The site consists of two sites, one for the public, and another for the staff around the world, providing a contributor, sub-editor, editor system for the generation of content for the public site. It features news in several sections (including scientific, health, industry, irreverent etc), wine tastings, and encyclopaedic information on every wine region of the world. Statistics are shown graphically, with graphs generated by software in real time. The site generates newsletters for subscribers, and has an on-line auction system for fine wine auctions anywhere in the world.



2003

Navman

Navman produce a range of high tech products in the marine and GPS markets. They have a staff of over 300 in Auckland. My role was to coach software developers, and to assist in the development of a sophisticated testing system for their latest products.

1998-2001



OfficeCentral

Set up joint venture with **Babbage Consultants Ltd** to further develop and market an Office Management and Automation Software Product with Contact Management, Job Management, and a Document Control System, all integrated with a full Client Server accounting package, with a comprehensive Job Costing module and E-Commerce readiness.

(see <http://www.officecentral.co.nz>)

Projects developed during this period include:

- Prototyping a new Inventory Control System for **Sanderson Computers Ltd**
- Development of an RF based Inventory Picking system for **Sandersons**.
- Year 2000 Readiness Assessments for **Manukau City Council** Parks and Booking System.
- Mentoring for Delphi developers at **Globalock**.
- Paging System installation at **Auckland Coastguard**.

1995 - 2002

Founded **Corporate Software New Zealand Limited**. This company was set up to develop a variety of business software solutions, using the latest tools available for the Windows, Windows95 and Windows NT environments.



Projects developed during this time include:

- A specialised Point of Sale system and control system for **Tendercare**, an up-market Laundromat chain.
- An machine automation control system for the Laundry at Otago Hospital.
- A Medical Electronic Laboratory Test Request System for **SGS-Medlab** in New Zealand.
- An Alarm Monitoring station in Auckland with management facilities.
- A staff and Talent Management package for **Modelpool**, a Film Extras management company supplying Hercules and Xena, and Lord of the Rings.
- The prototype for a new Medical practice software system and mentoring of client programmer staff at **HealthTech**.
- The prototype and mentoring of a new hotel reservation system (Maxial) and mentoring of client staff at **Sanderson Computers**.
- A Distribution System interface and barcoding solution for the warehouse of a computer company (**Acer New Zealand**).
- A Management and Booking System for a Training company.
- A control system for monitoring kitchen industrial washing machines at **Auckland International Airport**.
- Management and mentoring of programmer staff for a large Real Estate Website (**RealENZ**).
- Consultancy to **Telecom New Zealand** in setting up Marketing and Management Intranet.
- Web site design and management for over 20 companies.
- Year 2000 compliance testing for **New Zealand Refinery Company** in Whangarei, Pan Pac Mill in Napier, and other existing clients.

1992-1994

RIX Services Ltd

Manager of Electronics and Software for **RIX Services Ltd**. This position planned for a three year term. In that time I managed the development of a number of electronic and software systems, as well as managing a number of one off projects. Notable projects during this time were:

Fuelmate - Card operated pump Controller

Automate - Fleet Refuelling Controller

Weighmate - Fleet Weighbridge Controller

FORT - FAX over radio Telephone Interface

A special multi output **power supply** used in Briefcase Computer Systems

An electronic **speedometer** used in NZ manufactured buses

A software - electronic package for the management of the **Data Acquisition** of data used in a power generation project pilot, where power is generated through the use of Natural Gas, obtained by burning coal underground. This project was undertaken by The Electricity Corporation of NZ, and the Williams Group of the USA (second largest pipeline company in the USA). The equipment was first used in Huntly in NZ, and then in Rawlins, Wyoming, USA.

WINFLEET - a Vehicle Fleet Maintenance software system, used by the Yellow Bus Company in Auckland (500 buses). Integrated with the **Automate** Fleet refuelling system mentioned above.

Skills developed in this period include Windows programming (Borland Pascal 7 - Delphi), Internet use and connectivity, some more telecommunications skills, and the experience of dealing direct with Asian customers.(RIX has dealing in China, Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Nigeria, USA, UK, Bolivia, and Argentina)



1990 - 1991

IBM New Zealand. Contracted as a Petroleum Industry Consultant, serving with the DRSC, a support group for the Asia and Pacific region.



I was involved in projects throughout Australia, NZ, and Asian countries, developing and promoting IBM retail solutions for the Petroleum Industry.

Our clients were the major Oil Companies, including BP, Mobil, Shell, and Caltex.

Our projects often included the integration of local software and solutions into the larger systems implemented by IBM for the Oil Companies.

1986 - 1991

I founded **Postec Engineering Ltd** (now called **Postec Data Systems Ltd**, and owned by Gilbarco)

This company specialised in the interfacing to different pump systems from around the world, in particular Australia. I developed the concept and first implementation of the Forecourt Communications Controller, the world's first "Multi-Protocol" pump controller, that interfaced to all of New Zealand and Australia's pump types from different manufacturers. It is now used extensively throughout Australia. I spent considerable time dealing with Certification Authorities (Australia's National Standards Authority), and the various Multinational Oil companies and learned to work within their management structures.

Another major project involved the development of a Remote Communications Controller, which Shell Oil use to remotely monitor the operation of a Service Station pump sales, tank levels, and other real time data.

The projects allowed me to further my micro-controller software experience, as well as low level and high level PC software skills.

Postec Data Systems Ltd was awarded an Air New Zealand export award for the products that were originally developed during my tenure there.

1979 - 1986

Founded **Microelectronic Services Ltd** (later called **Task Technology Ltd**)

This company was involved in the development of microprocessor based control equipment for the Distribution sector of the Oil Industry (Service Stations). This work pioneered the opening up of the industry to other players, by interfacing to the proprietary equipment that had been installed in service stations throughout NZ. The company developed a Point of Sale known as the MASTER System, and eventually its own Back Office Software Package.

We also pioneered the development of Compressed Natural Gas Metering systems, when CNG was heavily promoted by the NZ Government for vehicle use. The systems developed by MSL have been replicated in every country using CNG in the world. I was involved in the transfer of this technology to Canada, and spent time there travelling throughout that country promoting alternative fuels and the NZ equipment.

The CNG designs were also modified for use in LPG equipment in conjunction with Rockgas.



1978 - 1979

Tikipunga High School. Taught mathematics to third and fourth form students.

1972 - 1978

Involved with non-profit organisations worldwide, teaching personal development programmes in New Zealand and throughout a variety of overseas countries (Switzerland, UK, France, USA, Canada, Philippines, Spain, Australia). Developed many skills, including public speaking, foreign languages, event promotion, media and press dealings, people skills, and general business administration skills.