

# Nicholas R. Melnick

## Technology Executive and Agent of Change

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### Summary and Profile

An experienced, objective, and talented leader who thrives in challenging, fast-paced organizations delivering disruptive and groundbreaking technology. Possesses a unique ability to hit the ground running and guide teams toward reliable and consistent results. A proven problem solver, with a keen understanding of business needs and goals, able to pull together many groups to deliver a long term, functional, and successful technical strategy.

### Skills and Experience

#### Web and Application Development

JavaScript (jQuery, Node.js, AngularJS), Java (*Play, Android*), Perl (*Catalyst, Moose, DBIx::Class*), Python (Django), Vala, and C. Well versed in HTML and AJAX, with exposure to C#, Python, Ruby, Scala, and Swift

#### Database and Storage

RDBMS: PostgreSQL, MySQL, Oracle, exposure to SQL Server. NoSQL/Cache: Couchbase, CouchDB, Redis

### Employment History

#### Director of Software Engineering <withheld>, Minneapolis, MN

Oct. 2014 – Present

Multi-talented member of the engineering leadership team, responsible for leadership of QA and development engineers in the US and Ukraine, and delivery of three of the company's customer-facing products. Responsible for delivering new and innovative functionality while reworking and scaling the existing product offering to provide services to a new class of customer and usage. Lead efforts in moving appropriate applications from classic queuing and relational database designs to modern, cloud-based architecture.

- Identify key weak points in architecture for move to new design while keeping active customers utilizing services
- Collaborate with Product, Operations, and Leadership to guide strategy toward current capabilities combined with future efforts
- Mentor and develop engineering talent to make significant changes in short time to improve stability and features
- Guide teams to sustainable and scalable technologies to reduce cost and complexity while increasing reliability

#### Director of Development *Digital River, Inc., Minnetonka, MN*

Nov. 2012 – Oct. 2014

Critical member of the SMB Commerce leadership team, responsible for technical strategy on the company's primary SMB e-commerce platform. Drives development competencies, empowerment, and teamwork through coaching and mentoring of engineering teams in multiple geographies, including locations in the US, Germany, and India. Leverages 15 years of development experience and deep understanding of best-practice architecture disciplines and processes, combined with extensive experience with the SMB e-commerce market to guide technical direction in a cross-functional environment.

- Provides technical expertise to business owners, product owners, project management, and legal to deliver an advanced, best-in-class commerce platform while maintaining stability and scalability
- Collaborates with other development, IT, and operations groups within the company to encourage rapid development, fast failure, and partnerships to share best practices, technologies and services across teams
- Identifies and develops top engineering talent by lifting gifted software architects into key roles to quickly release new features and bulletproof the existing code
- Successfully implemented transition of the development group into Agile methodology fostering individual leadership and ownership
- Drove and effectively accomplished a movement toward service-oriented architecture, encouraging new functionality to stand apart with client-facing APIs, and using refactoring as a way to pull functionality into stand alone services

*Associate Director of Development*  
*Technical Development Manager*

Nov. 2011 – Nov. 2012

Jan. 2010 – Nov. 2011

Led the development teams for SWREG and RegNow, two market leading self-contained e-commerce systems. Mentored developers through a conversion of Perl code as old as ten years to modern, scalable systems using Catalyst and other technologies, focused on technical debt and security fixes, and interfaced with other teams throughout the company to foster productive relationships and increase speed to market.

- Managed technical development of the two highest grossing commerce platforms within the SMB organization
- Successfully initiated and accomplished a complete modernization effort on two platforms, bringing new methodology and mentorship to the team
- Undertook and refocused a development team into stable releases through coaching, organizational changes, informal meetups, and release planning

**Development and Systems Guru** *Golden Guru, LLC, Port Orchard, WA*

Feb. 2008 – Jan. 2010

Joined a small group of highly specialized developers and designers to create and maintain large, scalable web applications for outside clients and internal use. Provided guidance on modern technologies and system design, and played a key role in the architecture of several large sites.

- Played instrumental role in re-architecture of a high profile web application serving medical information to over one million registered users from Mason to a custom web framework using Perl, DBIx::Class, and MySQL
- Consulted external clients on site direction, scalability, reporting, and usability
- Drove implementation of enhanced security and lockdown techniques to move toward HIPAA compliance

**System Architect** *G2 Web Services, Bellevue, WA*

Oct. 2006 – Feb. 2008

High-level role as an architect, manager, developer, and lead administrator for a system to solve solving web data aggregation, analysis, and automation for a merchant compliance company. Quickly automated processes to change multiple hour job preparation to an end-to-end, hands-off automated system, managing data input, analysis, heuristics, and database work to a queued and auto-fed distributed crawling system.

- Built and managed IT operations team, driving process, monitoring, and automation across a large installation
- Redeveloped existing tools to take advantage of database abstraction and modular, OO Perl development
- Created a distributed job management system to allow multiple nodes in various geographical locations to perform small targeted tasks and return results to a bank of master servers
- Provided web services utilizing SOAP, XML-RPC, and YAML written in Perl for Perl, Java and PHP clients

**Senior Technology Manager** *NexTune, Inc., Redmond, WA*

Sep. 2005 – Oct. 2006

Lead the Server Technology Team: managed and mentored up to six senior-level developers, providing system architecture and data integration processes in a music technology company. Successfully managed the migration of an existing unfinished C# and SQL Server platform to a Perl-based web application with XML-RPC web services, creating a seamless infrastructure for the “nexTune” application.

- Managed a team of developers, DBAs, and administrators to construct a reliable server and database platform
- Created an API between NexTune and partners for music metadata and commerce
- Performed REALbasic and C development; created server communication libraries and interfaces

**Web Application Developer** *Dialup USA, Inc., Lynnwood, WA*

Mar. 2005 – Aug. 2005

Joined this fast growing provider of virtual ISP solutions at a critical stage of transition into automating and extending core processes. Initial projects included designing a new payroll system for internal use, as well as two other customer-facing Perl MVC applications utilizing Catalyst, CGI::Application and Template Toolkit.

- Created an automated reseller signup tool allowing customers to start a virtual ISP online in minutes, replacing 90% of the new customer paperwork and manual setup
- Initiated processes for requirements specification, system and code documentation, and version control

**Web Solutions Engineer** *UpSellUSA, Inc., Seattle, WA*

Oct. 2003 – Mar. 2005

Created new features and performed maintenance, administration and monitoring of their flagship Learning Incentive Management product during a major growth period. Instrumental in development, scaling, and execution of interoperability with .NET without fundamentally changing application architecture.

- Maintained and extended a large scale web application in Perl using CGI::Application on Apache and IIS
- Acted as a build engineer, effectively designed a code release system for development and production

**Internet Systems Specialist** *digital.forest, Inc., Bothell, WA*

*Oct. 2000 – Oct. 2003*

Served as administrator and escalated support for OS X Server, Windows, and FreeBSD. Designed Perl applications interfacing with FileMaker, MySQL, and OpenBase SQL for external clients and internal account support. Lead transitions to new technology, where appropriate, to simplify data center operations and account management.

**Technical Representative** *Citilink Internet, Minneapolis, MN*

*Mar. 1998 – Sep. 2000*

**Web Solutions Developer** *US West Interprise, Minneapolis, MN*

*May 1999 – Mar 2000*