

# Résumé of Benjamin Dekarske

## **Overview**

- Well-established expert in designing, developing, supporting web-enabled applications, self-service kiosks, and biometrics-enabled solutions.
- Experience with both small- and very large-scale deployments.
- Demonstrated effectiveness with both independent- and team-oriented projects; as both a design/development role and a lead development role.
- Dedicated, highly motivated, self-starter.
- Previous holder of U.S. Government security clearance.
- References available upon request.
- Samples of prior work available online at <http://www.dekarske.com>.

## **Skills Summary**

### **Domain Expertise / Solutions**

- Internet / Web Portals
- Self-Service Kiosks
- Smart Cards
- Biometrics
- Encryption / PKI

### **Programming Languages & Tools**

- Java / JSP / EJB / Servlets
- ActionScript 1, 2, 3, Flex
- .NET (C#, ASP, Webservices)
- C / C++
- Python
- Groovy
- PHP
- XML / XSL / XSLT
- HTML / XHTML / CSS / JavaScript

### **Databases**

- Oracle
- SQL Server
- MySQL

### **Software / System Architecture**

- Macromedia Flash 7, 8, 9
- Adobe Photoshop 4 – CS3
- Adobe Acrobat Professional
- InstallShield
- Weblogic
- Websphere
- Tomcat
- IIS
- Eclipse, Flex Builder, IntelliJ

### **Hardware**

- PCs
- Servers
- Kiosks
- Biometric Scanners (finger, face, iris)

### **Operating Systems**

- Windows 9x, NT, 2000, XP, Vista
- Unix / Linux

## **Project Experience**

### **Jostens, Yearbook Avenue, 09/2006 - Current**

- Principal programmer/analyst and lead developer of high-throughput, high-availability, major business-driving online yearbook creation tool. Responsible for directing team of both employees and contractors, numbering up to five, in development and support tasks. Responsible for development scope and long-term planning with business team. Recognized leader in organization, responsible for creating best practices and promoting them. Used web services (Java to .NET) to integrate with other external organizations. Responsible for technical interviews of new staff and contractors; created and maintain tests for organization. Using Java, JSP, ASP, ActionScript, Flex, Python, Groovy, Grails, Servlets, Oracle 10g.

### **Unisys Corporation (Public Sector), Registered Traveler, 11/2004 - 09/2006**

- Technical architect of the private sector Registered Traveler solution, responsible for verification kiosk design and implementation as well as pre-enrollment/marketing website design and implementation. Using C#.NET, ASP.NET, Flash, Webservices.

### **Unisys Corporation (Transportation), Cargo Portal Services, 08/2002 - 09/2006**

- On the team that designed and built the world's first multi-carrier cargo internet portal, integrating six major airline cargo carriers with one common front-end. Took leading role with UI design, usability, and implementation – HTML, Javascript, JSPs and XML parsing, Java EJB. Also was tasked as the application's database designer and administrator, using SQL Server 2000.

- Supported product, responsible for new carrier integrations, and lead a team of three developers. Heavy interaction with customers to define new change requests, identify issues, and assigning developers to address both.

### **Unisys Corporation (Public Sector), US-VISIT Exit Kiosk, 09/2003 - 09/2006**

- Part of the team that designed and implemented the U.S. Department of Homeland Security US-VISIT Exit kiosk / handheld solution. Responsible for kiosk integration of biometric devices, message encryption and transmission to central server, installation programs, configuration management, and associated documentation. Designed UI and underlying interfaces to biometric devices, and personally re-wrote the user interface overnight to save the project. Worked on-site with customers during initial deployment to ensure error-free operation. Lead several deployments to airports. Supported this project as a subject-matter expert. Using Java, HTML, Flash, C#.NET, VB.NET, Webservices, Installshield.

### **Unisys Corporation (Transportation), CitizenAccess, 07/2003 - 11/2003**

- Designed and implemented a government-funded project to connect an airline's reservation system and kiosk with a biometric-enabled customs and border crossing clearance system. Was principal architect and also was responsible for database administration. Project wasn't completed due to airline customer's bankruptcy. Used HTML, Java, EJB, JSP, Javascript, Oracle.

### **Unisys Corporation (Transportation), APPS2, 06/2002 - 08/2002**

- APPS2 project, worked with some members of the team to produce standardized screens and menus across the product. Project wasn't completed due to a shift in corporate strategy. Used HTML, Java, EJB, JSP, Javascript.

**Michigan Tech Lode, Online Editor, 10/2000 - 05/2002**

- Designed and developed first online website for the University's premiere student-run newspaper. Won several collegiate awards for design and innovation. Used HTML, Flash, PHP, mySQL.

**Michigan Tech Telecommunications, Senior Consultant, 08/1999 - 05/2002**

- Rose through the ranks during my three years as a consultant to eventually become a senior consultant, teaching and leading newer and younger student consultants in the "trade" of supporting Michigan Tech's campus network.  
- Built an online trouble-ticket system, usable by consultants and also viewable by customers to see how their problem is progressing through the system. Used significant PC hardware/software/network configuration skills, HTML, PHP, mySQL.

**Wausau Benefits, Internet Developer, 05/2000 - 08/2001**

- Consulted for this health insurance administration company, which was at the time recently spun-off from the larger and more dominant Liberty Mutual. Was tasked with and completed giving it a distinct online presence, and also a unique and usable intranet. Used HTML, Javascript, PHP, mySQL, SQL Server.  
- Aided design and began development of their next-generation health insurance administration web portal, used Java and SQL Server.

**Northland Cranberries, IT Staff, 11/1998 - 08/2000**

- Part of a small team tasked with support of 300 workstations and their network configurations for this major cranberry grower, based in Wisconsin. Learned many operating systems and their configurations, and became exposed to a range of network technologies.

## **Education**

**Master of Science in Software Engineering, May 2008**

University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, MN

**Bachelor of Science in Computer Science, May 2002**

Michigan Technological University, Houghton MI, Graduated Cum Laude