

Lisa Slater Nicholls

<mailto:lisa@spacefold.com>

9 San Felipe Way, Novato, CA 94945 USA

Overview

- Over eighteen years' experience developing and communicating innovative solutions for data storage, collection, reporting, and analysis. More than ten years' experience developing with on-line technologies. Demonstrated strength in absorbing and connecting diverse technical environments and requirements to produce Business Intelligence solutions, and business-centered results.
- Strong background in XML/XSLT, object-oriented design and rapid development practices (OOP and RAD). Successful implementations of IIS/COM and ASP.NET-hosted solutions, as well as Java-based server applications. Demonstrated expertise in various SQL dialects and scripting languages, and all versions of Microsoft FoxPro and Visual FoxPro. Longstanding interest in, and practice of, organized testing strategies, performance optimization, coaching of dynamic development teams.

Work experience and activities

- **DataBase Administrator – Santa Rosa City Schools District, Santa Rosa, CA, USA**
August 2010 – present. Responsibilities:

All areas of SQL Server and Student Information Systems application support with special emphasis on Business Intelligence (BI).

- **Account and Technical Project Manager/Architect - Microsoft Technologies Team, at EC | Wise, San Rafael, Ca, USA**
2007 – August 2010. Responsibilities:

Team management, solutions strategy, architecture and design, with special emphasis on Business Intelligence (BI).

- **Program Manager and Developer, dba Spacefold, for Microsoft Corporation, Redmond, Washington, USA**
2003 -2007. Responsibilities:

Full Program Manager responsibility for in-house base product development of the VFP 9 Reporting System during the Visual FoxPro 9.0 and 9.0 SP2 product cycles, from specification through completion, including language and IDE improvements, and extensibility architecture.

Development of shipping/out-of-the-box Xbase implementations of new reporting features. External evangelist for new features, presenting conference sessions and serving as customer and third-party vendor contact during alpha/beta test cycles. Author of *Flying Fox: Applying Visual FoxPro Reporting to Any Data, in Any Environment*, teaching integration of VFP reporting features for MySQL developers. MSFT User Ed/MSDN technical writing responsibility, including product documentation and white papers on XML integration scenarios using Office 2007 and XAML.

- **Programmer/Analyst, dba Spacefold, for Bally Technologies/Alliance Gaming, Las Vegas, Nevada, USA**
2003 -2007. Responsibilities:

Update and migration of various FoxPro systems. Liaison between FoxPro systems and other existing in-house systems (VisualBasic Classic, IBM-AS400, java-based) as well as new systems under development in the enterprise (Siebel, EDS-Team Center, Agile PLM) for analysis and two-way data translation.

Design and implementation of web services to warehouse and expose the heterogeneous data, including full-scale enterprise reporting implementation. Fulfillment of additional data-mining and output requirements, for external clients, in .NET (both C# and VB.NET) components, T-SQL, XML and XSLT. Ad-hoc scripting solutions and other customizations for end-users in ASP.NET and Microsoft-Office-based client code. Resource for in-house developers using SQL, MS Reporting Services, XML, and Siebel. Admin responsibility for intranet web server, SQL Server installation and deployment, and SQL Server Reporting Services exposure in the enterprise.

- **Integration Engineer/Solutions Architect, Acxiom Corporation, Little Rock, Arkansas, USA**
Homebased (San Rafael, CA and Las Vegas, NV) consultant Feb 1999, employee Apr 1999 – Jan 2003.

Participated in end-to-end proposal, design, and implementation of Oracle-Acxiom Alliances solution, using IIS with ASP, VBScript and XML technologies. Authored DHTML, XSLT-driven interface driven by the ASP solution and XML and visually based on Oracle products, as a sample QuickLoad end-client ASP web application. Provided end-result of the Oracle QuickLoad data-mining solution, a branded analysis report, using Microsoft Excel automation and Visual FoxPro-based COM objects.

Maintained and enhanced Apache SOAP Toolkit-based, Tomcat-hosted web services, to deliver real-time and batch prospect and customer datasets hosted by Acxiom in XML format. Enhanced performance and interoperability via new Java components and improved XSD/WSDL documents, UNIX shell scripting. Provided administrative, test, and demo facilities via Java beans, JSP, custom tag libraries on web server as well as JavaScript/DHTML, Microsoft HTA, HTTP and Microsoft-SOAP Toolkit client test components. Served as technical liaison to work with Microsoft-based SOAP partner-implementers.

Developed re-usable components and examples to Acxiom-enable Siebel installations, using Siebel scripting and XSLT, with full Siebel courseware-style documentation. Mentored customers' Siebel's developers for on-line implementation.

Created Java and XML/XSLT components for an IBM MQ-Series adaptor for plug-in, real-time Acxiom Data Network (ADN) access. Design included a robust data element mapping strategy, allowing easy customization for IBM implementers.

Created and taught training course in Acxiom on-line access via XML and Java to Oracle internal development team. Created test tools via Internet Explorer-based DHTML and JavaScript.

Created the first successful ADN SDK, written in Visual FoxPro components and exposed in IIS. Created COM clients and a full end-user Wizard interface for public distribution, promoting external access of the ADN 1.x API, including documentation.

Provided additional customized clients, integration research, technical writing, migration strategies, escalated ADN support, and documentation examples for ADN customers accessing any Acxiom product lines, whether they used Microsoft Office automation, Smalltalk, Perl, C++, Flash, Cold Fusion, VB, Access, Transact-SQL ... you name it. Rapidly prepared various products and concepts in the Acxiom pipeline, to support sales-support "live" demos. Served as internal evangelist and external advocate for XML, throughout Acxiom career, beginning with the pioneering use of XML at Acxiom through the ADN 1.x API. Served as customer advocate for XML interfaces, helping Acxiom groups to create usable XML APIs and schemas, receiving various peer-to-peer internal awards for this work. Represented Acxiom to CPExchange standards group designing XML B2B interfaces for, and concerned with privacy issues central to, the exchange of customer data.

- **FoxPro Developers' Consultant, dba SoftSpoken Santa Rosa, California, USA and Auckland, New Zealand**
1989-1999.

Specialist in the optimization of FoxPro development practices for programming teams in DOS, Windows, Unix, and Macintosh environments. International client list included Microsoft, Legent, SBT, Savid, various government agencies' programming groups, and most of the major FoxPro application development houses. Developer of several Xbase tools currently shipped as part of the Microsoft Visual FoxPro product from VFP 6.0 through present versions, including a small-scale application framework, many class libraries, and its Coverage-Profiler analysis application. (For a by-lined articles on one of these components, see: <http://msdn2.microsoft.com/en-us/library/ms917358.aspx>.) Developer of MasterClass Visual FoxPro Development Framework and many other published programmers' tools. Writer, producer, and on-screen talent for FoxPro RAD videotapes. Author of seven books for FoxPro developers, published by Que, Hayden/Brady, and Pinnacle Press, including one of the few database books making the NY Times Computer Bestseller list.

Monthly columnist for *DataBased Advisor* for over a year. Author of countless other articles and white papers on database topics, for PC Magazine, Microsoft, and the Cobb Group. Editor of *FoxTalk*, developers' journal published by Pinnacle, for two years. Editor of Pinnacle's *Pros Talk Fox* books, series I and II. Featured speaker at almost every FoxPro conference (regional, national, or international) held 1990 through 1999. Taught numerous "private" curricula for corporate groups. Numerous honors and awards for Xbase community presence and contributions, including founding member of the Microsoft Most Valued Professional (MVP) group in 1993, continuing through 2001. Served as Fox CompuServe Forum archivist and wizop, 1990 through 1995. Continue to provide volunteer support for developers migrating to other data-handling applications.

Education

Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA.
BA magna cum laude in History and Literature, 1976.