

19 St. Leonard's Way
Woore
Crewe
Cheshire
CW3 9SS

E-Mail: me@kieranbenton.com
Web: <http://www.kieranbenton.com>
Tel: 01630 647395
Mobile Tel: 07739 018899
D.O.B: 10th June 1983

Profile

I am a highly motivated and enthusiastic Electronic & Software Engineering (MEng) graduate from The University of Birmingham. Passionate about technology, and with the technical skills to match, I am hardworking and dedicated to the task in hand. I have excellent interpersonal and team management skills, along with commercial awareness thanks to running my own independent software business.

In recognition of my outstanding contribution to the academic technical community, I was awarded the title of Microsoft Student Partner 2005, of which only sixty were granted between all the I.T. students in the UK & Ireland.

In my spare time, I enjoy swimming, reading, travelling with my girlfriend and football. I am looking to start a professional career in either software development/consultancy or electronic engineering.

Key Skills

Achievements

- **Microsoft Student Partner**

One of my proudest moments was receiving this elite award from one of the giants of the software industry. It has allowed me deeper insight into up-and-coming technologies that will be shaping the future of software development.

- **Jaguar Advanced Cruise Control**

Successfully managed and led our team through a significant third-year project, achieving a first grade which was also the second best in the year. This allowed me to demonstrate my project management skills to good effect, whilst also contributing towards the technical success of the assignment.

- **Manchester United F.C.**

Was passed a task by my employer, Synchro Systems, to complete and optimize a critical business routine intended for Manchester United. This involved working closely with the client to derive a complete specification and to perform testing. Not only did I complete the system to the exact specifications, I reduced the amount of time it took to run from over 12 hours to under half an hour.

- **CETADL Automated Camera Control**

My final-year research project, I was solely responsible for the success of this project which, as well as requiring a large amount of academic research, also provided added value to the CETADL (Centre For Educational Technology And Distance Learning) group at the university.

- **Headmaster's Certificate of Excellence**

I have always strived to work hard and further myself, and this was evident even back as far as 1998 when I was recognized for my excellence in all areas of study. Only two of these were awarded each year.

- **Dialogue 2000**

This was an exchange program with a college in Bordeaux, France, for an extended period of seven weeks. During this time I worked independently on my A-Levels, still managing to achieve high grades without access to a full complement of teaching staff, and also grew my French speaking and comprehension abilities.

Technical Expertise

- C# / .NET Framework
- Java
- C / C++
- Digital Systems / VHDL
- T-SQL / MS SQL Server
- Embedded Assembler
- Operating System Design
- Crystal Reports
- Visual Basic 6
- HTML / ASP.NET / PHP
- Windows 2000/XP Support
- TCP/IP Networking
- Filemaker Pro (Apple Mac)

Management Skills

- Much of my **commercial awareness** has developed from my experiences with working for Synchro Systems, where I was in front-line contact with representatives of Manchester United and The Athens Olympics.
- This fully tested my **business-to-business** (B2B) communication abilities, with a great deal of responsibility handed to me after a short period of time. I handled this very professionally and always strived to get the job done.
- Experience of running my own small **independent software company**, taking the initiative in writing bespoke systems for a local company (OneStop Media) and for associates to fulfill specific needs. I have always been in demand, with much return business from word-of-mouth.
- I also completed the **Industrial Organisation and Management** and **Accounting for Engineers** courses whilst at University.

Education

- 2001 – 2005 **The University of Birmingham**
1st Class MEng (Hons) Electronic & Software Engineering (ESE)
- 1999 – 2001 **Grove Sixth Form College, Market Drayton**
A-Levels: Mathematics (A), Physics (A), General Studies (A), Geography (B) & Further Mathematics (C)
- 1994 – 1999 **The Grove School, Market Drayton**
11 GCSEs: Three at A grade, the remainder at A grade. These were the highest achieved at my school in my year of leaving.*

Work Experience

- Oct 2003 – Oct 2004 **Synchro Systems Ltd, Newcastle-Under-Lyme**
Again a recurring holiday job, I moved from the services division of Synchro into a far more responsible and demanding position as part of their software development team. During this time, I worked on web and PC based ticketing software for several high profile clients, including: The Athens Olympics 2004, Arsenal F.C., Manchester United F.C. & Ticketmaster.
- Jul 2003 – Oct 2003 **OneStop Media Services, Newcastle-Under-Lyme**
I worked independently as a contractor for the company, developing an entire marketing database system from scratch in my spare time. The customer was extremely satisfied with the software, which was engineered to streamline their sales operation.
- Jul 2002 – Sep 2003 **Synchro Systems Ltd, Newcastle-Under-Lyme**
A summer job for two years, I was responsible for general office tasks including filing, report writing & photocopying. Throughout put my technical skills to good use in streamlining the operations of the services division, responsible for dispatching thousands of football season tickets every year.
- Apr 1997 - Jun 2001 **J & L News, Market Drayton**
Part-time sales assistant and full-time computer support for a newsagent (incidentally owned by my parents). Excellent interpersonal skills were often required to deal with difficult customer situations, and also the ability to work under pressure; for instance when lightning destroyed an EPOS till and backroom computer. I also managed the business on various occasions in my parents' absence.