

JAMES MCNICHOLAS

Senior Developer at IG Group

@ james.mcnicholas1@gmail.com

+44 (0) 747279 4834

London, UK

<https://jamesmcnicholas.co.uk>

INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

IG IG Group - Senior Developer

Jan 2025 – Present

City of London, UK

- Led migration of legacy CentOS servers to Rocky 9 VMs with zero production downtime
- Facilitated vendor integration to enable algorithmic FX hedging
- Led the team's AI development strategy & MCP development

IG IG Group - Java Engineer

Jan 2022 – Jan 2025

City of London, UK

Working across order management and broker connectivity

- Designed and implemented solution to monitor and limit users requesting RSP quotes en-masse without trading
- Delivered new asset classes and instruments for client trading.
- Led initiative to rewrite legacy Swing applications using Vaadin.
- Live production on-call support, rapidly resolving raised incidents.
- Led key weekend data centre failover "flips" for the DMA team.
- Maintained and upgraded existing order management systems utilising industry standard FIX messaging.
- Requirement definition, unit & integration testing, code reviews, deployments and ceremonies.
- Frequent cross-team and business facing interaction, translating between financial and technical teams.
- Used coaching, mentoring, and courses to develop leadership skills.
- International collaboration with offices in Spain, Poland and India.

CGI CGI - Consultant Software Engineer - Space

Sept 2019 – Dec 2021

Surrey, UK

- C#/Java Developer for the OneWeb Satellite Megaconstellation Project. Led code reviews, process improvement, live system support and successful project reboot following Chapter 11 bankruptcy.
- C Developer responsible for correcting non-conformance software reports for a safety critical satellite navigation system.
- Python Developer tasked with implementation of a satellite automated test regression system following Agile practices.

CGI CGI - Test Automation Analyst - Space

Sept 2018 – Sept 2019

Surrey, UK

- Wrote and managed automated E2E test suites for low-earth-orbit satellite & ground station monitoring.
- Oversaw nightly test suite runs and reported defects to developers ready for FAT and SAT events.
- Used SikuliX and Robot Framework to develop reliable computer image recognition.

OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE

WireITFree - Contract Computer Engineer

Nov 2017 – July 2018

Hampshire, UK

Avondale LTC - Tennis Leader

Sept 2014 – Sept 2016

Hampshire, UK

EDUCATION

BSc (Hons) Digital & Technology Solutions - 1st Class Honours

University of Winchester

Sept 2018 - Jun 2021

- Sponsored Degree apprenticeship completed whilst working for CGI, attending university lectures alongside work.
- Course content covered on both computer science and business management concepts in detail.
- Dissertation: Research and development of a MEAN stack progressive web application to enhance and support fair career development of employees at CGI.

TECH

Core Java 8-17

FIX Protocol

Vaadin

Python

Git

Linux

Splunk

Claude/GPT

SQL

C#

Computer Hardware

SKILLS

AI Prompting

Adaptability

Problem diagnosis

Cohesive Team-working

Paired Programming

Putting out fires!

Agile/Kanban

Killer Badminton smash

Business communication

CSR / VOLUNTEERING

Run the River Charity 5k

September 2024, September 2022

Planet Patrol River Cleanup

August 2022, September 2022

Organised IG team volunteering day for London Arts and Health

May 2022

Degree Apprentice open evening representative

July 2019

Tennis Coaching Volunteer

2016