

CONSTANTINOS VALAKAS

WOKING, GU22

SURREY, UK

COSTAS@VALAKAS.COM

++44 (0) 7484 152 668



PROFILE

EFT (Electronic Funds Transfer) Software Engineer in banking payment systems including ACI Postilion suite, ACI UP Platform, EFT protocols (ISO8583, Visa Base I & II, MasterCard SMS/Credit, American Express, Diners Club Xpress, APACS, Union Pay), EMV Integrated Circuit Card technology integration.

Software Engineer with substantial experience in programming in Ansi C, Java 2, C#, Perl as far as programming languages are concerned.

Specialties: Banking and retail payment solutions.

EXPERIENCE

Senior Technical Consultant

Stanchion Payment Solutions, London, UK

September 2016 – Present

Providing consultation and project related technical support on payment platforms (including ACI Postilion and ACI UPF systems). Identifying and resolving complex technical issues. Creating, maintaining and communicating technical documentation of requirements, procedures and standards. Implementing optimum solutions that meet both business and technology requirements and working within project teams.

As a technical lead role, providing pre-sales services for high-level estimations of potential projects. Also providing detail design services for Postilion components based on various card associations and payment service providers specifications.

Technical Consultant

Stanchion Payment Solutions, London, UK

June 2015 – September 2016

Providing services concerning implementation and support of various Payment System environments (including Postilion) and consultancy to organisations running and operating payments systems.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Programming

S/W analysis & architecture
ANSI C
C#
Java
Perl
MS Visual Studio
Eclipse
Aptana Studio

Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT)

EFT protocols (ISO8583, Visa Base I & II, ISO8583 Postilion, DIASATM, BICISO, American Express LINK/GAN, Diners Club Xpress, APACS70, Union Pay International, ISO20022, CB2A, OmniPay, ZVT)
EFT-POS
ATM (NDC+)
EMV

Postilion

Custom development of:
Interchange drivers
Integration drivers
Office plug-ins
PostCard processors
PostCard validators

Realtime SDK
PostCard SDK
Office SDK
TermApp.Framework
e-Socket.POS
TestHarness

TestHarness

Head of Delivery

Codix SA, Athens, Greece

September 2013 – June 2015

Head of software delivery, responsible for company's software life cycle from functional design and development to QA testing and eventually to packaging and delivery.

Design and integration of Postilion components (interchange and integration drivers, PostCard, Postilion Office plug-ins, TermApp.Framework drivers). Deep knowledge Realtime SDK, Office SDK and PostCard SDK.

Senior EFT Software Engineer

Codix SA, Athens, Greece

September 2011 – September 2013

Senior EFT Software Engineer and Solutions architect, developing and designing EFT solutions mainly for ACI Postilion suite for banking solutions and other banking applications.

Design, development and integration of Postilion components (interchange and integration drivers, PostCard, Postilion Office plug-ins, TermApp.Framework drivers, e-Socket.POS). Deep knowledge Realtime SDK, Office SDK and PostCard SDK. Product support and consulting services.

EFT Software Engineer

Codix SA, Athens, Greece

September 2006 – September 2011

Software Engineer - EFT specialist, developing in C# and Java, product management and support of ACI Postilion suite for banking solutions.

Development and integration of Postilion components (interchange and integration drivers, PostCard, Postilion Office plug-ins, e-Socket.POS). Good knowledge Realtime SDK, Office SDK and PostCard SDK. Product support and consulting services.

Development of banking applications in .NET platform (C#).

Development of banking applications in Android platform.

Freelance Software/Web Developer

1998 – 2015

Development of .NET applications in C#. Website back-end and front-end development. Virtuemart and OpenCart e-commerce solutions integration. Great working experience in Joomla! CMS integration and development (custom components & modules). Development of GIS application in urban observatories. SEO optimization.

Software Engineer

Intracom SA, Peania, Greece

March 2006 – September 2006

Worked as Support Engineer for Sun Identity Manager™ suite after completing certification training by Sun.

Software Engineer

November 2005 – April 2006

WWW

PHP

Javascript, jQuery

AJAX

XML/XSL

CSS, HTML

Apache Web Server

Joomla! customization

OpenCart, Virtuemart

PayPal integration

SEO

Databases

Oracle MySQL

PostgreSQL, PostGIS

MS SQL Server

Operating systems

Ubuntu Linux, Mint,

MS Windows

Hellenic Army, Athens - Kos island, Greece

Project management in military internal software developed in Java. Director of the local Research & Informatics office of 80th National Guard Supreme Command in Kos island, while developing office's tasks management software tool in C#.

Programmer/Analyst February 2004 – November 2004
National Technical University of Athens, Athens, Greece

Implemented and supported of Faculty of Architecture web portal in ASP 6.0. Computer local network administration support of the Faculty of Architecture.

Programmer/Analyst October 2000 – October 2003
Altec SA, Athens, Greece

Developed applications for EFT-POS Ingenico™ terminals in ANSI C using Borland C++ IDE. Metavante™ CSF suite support and consulting services.

POSTILION PROJECTS

I have participated in the following projects as an employee in Codix SA and Stanchion Payment Solutions.

Large retailer in the UK November 2015 – November 2016

Worked as Support Engineer on site concerning Postilion Realtime and Office installation. Participated also in various implementation projects throughout the estate.

Large retailer in the UK June 2015 – October 2015

Worked as Implementation Engineer on site concerning PostCard and Postilion Office related projects.

Large payments processor in the UK 2013 - 2015

Delivery manager of integrated solution for a processor's foreign client.

Supervisor of development and testing of a Realtime v.4 generic node interchange driver and three node integration drivers.

Development and supervising of testing of a Realtime v.4 interchange node for connecting Postilion system with InComm processor.

Bank in Saudi Arabia 2012 - 2013

Development of three interchange drivers (sink node and dual node interfaces) that connect Postilion with the bank's host systems using proprietary protocols.

Development of a custom stand-alone application in the scope of the Postilion Framework that handles data from both Realtime and PostCard databases.

Development of an Office Generic Extract plug-in.

Bank in Israel

September 2012

Performance of a “Proof of Concept” (PoC) of Postilion suite functionality for a large Israeli Bank based on Tel Aviv.

This included demonstration of Transaction Manager functionality and capabilities and PostCard functionality. In addition, the PoC included also integration of Postilion with the bank’s Diebold and NCR terminals. Presentation and demonstration of Postilion SDK took also place by implementing on site one interchange driver for connecting with bank’s mainframe system, one terminal interchange driver and one split sink interchange driver.

Bank in Greece

2006 - 2015

Senior support engineer in the bank’s Postilion installation and all the relevant components: Realtime, Office, AtmApp, PostCard, Visabase12, MasterCard Credit.

Development and support of Host/2 interchange driver for the communication between Postilion and the bank’s Host system.

Development of the following integration drivers:

- Fees configuration and manipulation driver
- Visa protocol driver
- Visa protocol driver for Romania branch
- National interchange network (DIAS) field manipulation driver
- Debit cards activation driver
- Prepaid cards manipulation driver
- ATMs’ BNA functionality driver
- Postilion – Base24 interchange driver

Development of custom classes for AtmApp component.

Development of iCVV custom validator for the bank’s PostCard installation.

Large processor in the U.S.

2011

Development of Global sink node interchange driver for interfacing with Global Payments systems. The interface adheres to the East Host Authorization and EDC Message Specifications using the ISO8583 message format.

Large retailer in the U.K.

2011

Development of a Hot Card file translator using the Realtime SDK (version 5.3). The project included the implementation of a stand-alone Java application that manipulates

and translates various hotcard files. Microsoft SQL Server scheduled jobs were also implemented.

Processor in the U.K.

2011

Development of TermApp.Framework terminal driver which is used to drive POS terminal for a large French Bank project. The interface adheres to the CB2A interface a variant of ISO8583-1987 message protocol.

EDUCATION & CREDENTIALS

Electrical & Computer Engineering

September 1995 – June 2004

National Technical University of Athens, Athens, Greece

GPA 7.3/10.0

Studies focused in application development, IT project management, software engineering.

Certificate of Proficiency in English

December 1998

University of Cambridge, Athens, Greece

Zertifikat Deutsch als Fremdsprache

September 1991

Goethe Institut, Athens, Greece

PUBLICATIONS

Designing and Implementing a Wrapper Specification Language

Greek Computer Society - Cyprus, Nicosia - November 8, 2001

Authors: Costas Valakas, Konstantinos Karageorgos, Yannis Stavarakas, Andreas Polyraakis

WTL is a high-level scripting language for wrapper definition designed by Constantinos Valakas and Konstantinos Karageorgos in the frame of Nestor project. The main idea of WTL is to implement a language that would allow dynamic generation of wrappers from high-level template code.

CERTIFICATIONS

ACI Universal Payments (UP) Platform

UP Boot Camp Training

November 2016

UP Framework Introduction Training (online course)

October 2016

UP Framework Basic Training (online course)

September 2017

UP Framework Advanced Training (online course)

September 2017

ACI Postilion

ACI Postilion Specialized Training: Postilion SDK

March 2010

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Member – Technical Chamber of Greece, ID: 100345

Member – Union of Informatics & Communication Engineers of Greece

MILITARY OBLIGATIONS

Fulfilled. Reserve Second-Lieutenant Officer of Research & Informatics Corps of Hellenic Army.