

# Reg Braithwaite

## Web & Email

<http://reginald.braythwayt.com>  
[reg@unspace.ca](mailto:reg@unspace.ca)

## On Video

<http://tinyurl.com/infoqinterview>  
<http://tinyurl.com/rubyfringe>

## Open Source

<http://github.com/raganwald>

## Weblogs

<http://homoiconic.com>  
<http://weblog.raganwald.com>

## Four Posts About Writing Code

"The Not So Big Software Design:"  
<http://tinyurl.com/notsobig>

"Refactoring Methods with Recursive Combinators:"  
<http://tinyurl.com/recursivecombinators>

"Why Why Functional Programming Matters Matters:"  
<http://tinyurl.com/yyfpm>

"Not All Functions Should Be Object Methods:"  
<http://tinyurl.com/verbsnotnouns>

## Four Posts About Shipping Code

"Bricks:" <http://tinyurl.com/swbricks>

"Which theory fits the evidence?"  
<http://tinyurl.com/whichtheory>

"Still failing, still learning:"  
<http://tinyurl.com/stillfailing>

"What I've Learned From Sales:"  
<http://tinyurl.com/learnedfromsales>

## Overview & Value Proposition

Extremely deep programming, design, and architecture expertise: Able to craft well-factored, maintainable code while mentoring colleagues and working with product management.

More than twenty years of experience developing successful software, managing technical products, developing and leading teams, and managing relationships with users and clients.

The perfect project, technical, or team lead for mission-critical application development: maturity and experience with growing technical companies mixed with extreme enthusiasm for creating something new.

*Bonus:* Extremely strong communicator. Respected speaker and writer on managing development, not-so-big design, and extreme hackery such as dynamic meta-programming.

## Highlights

- Dynamic language skills include authoring the *rewrite\_rails* plugin for extending the Ruby language and the popular *andand* gem; implemented Scheme in Java; a Smalltalk-like web template language; and a number of web applications using Ruby on Rails.
- Completed twelve Tier II-scale IT projects with seven-figure user bases as well as core competency applications powering the enterprise, web applications for mobile devices, integrated B2C with Google Maps, AJAX applications.
- Collaborated with management to introduce SCRUM/Agile methodology at ING DIRECT (USA), including training and process implementation; introduced agile practices at KL Group (now part of Quest Software), resulting in on-time software delivery.
- Noted and frequently quoted blogger on agile development practices, advanced programming topics, and Ruby idioms.
- Speaker at RubyFringe, MeshU, Microsoft Tech Days, and Stack Overflow Dev Days.
- Winner of both the Jolt Product Excellence and Software Development Productivity awards for work on server-side development tools.
- Lead teams with as many as twenty-two contributors.

## Recent Experience

### Unspace: 2009 – 2010

Ongoing architecture and development for a variety of client projects.

*Ruby on Rails, MySQL, RSpec, OS X, Javascript, JQuery, JQuery UI..*

### Architect & Senior Developer, Mdlogix (USA): 2008 – 2009

Led a rewrite of the authorization architecture for the company's flagship product, CRMS. Introduced and championed best practices for architecture, development, and process.

*Ruby on Rails, SQL Server, RSpec, OS X, Javascript, Prototype, Scriptaculous.*

### Contractor, Mobile Commons, CRM Integration (USA): 2007 – 2008

Integrated the company's flagship product, mCommons, with products from strategic partners. Created the architecture, infrastructure, and integration plug-ins for two partners.

*Ruby on Rails, MySQL, RSpec, Mongrel, Capistrano, OS X, Javascript, Prototype, Scriptaculous.*

### Team Lead, ING DIRECT (USA) [Self-Service](#): 2005 – 2007

Developed an enterprise-scale [ATM locator map-driven application](#), including an AJAX-driven interface and back-end integration. Led design, analysis, and team development of [Orange Mobile](#), enterprise-scale self-service for hand-held and mobile telephony devices.

Introduced best practices at the individual (coding), group (design and architecture), and organizational (development practices) levels, over six different major releases of the company's mission-critical web self-service application. Delivered "Selling Agile" training to the self-service development team and management.

Ignited dramatic improvement in development output and growing the self-service team from five to fourteen contributors.

*Scrum, Windows XP, WebSphere, WebSphere MQ, XML, XSLT, PL/SQL, JavaScript, AJAX, Google Maps, Prototype, Scriptaculous, Java, J2EE, Java5, Tomcat 5, Eclipse 2.x-3.x, SQL, JDBC, Oracle, Subversion.*

### Director of Software Development, Opalis Software: 2004 – 2005

Hands-on product design and development. Directly managed the performance of twelve individual reports and team leads in Toronto, New York, and Halifax.

Co-facilitated adoption of agile and iterative development practices. Identified a troubled project, produced quantitative evidence of its trouble, and exhibited the courage to recommend its cancellation.

*Microsoft Operations Manager 2005, Microsoft Systems Management Server, IBM Autonomic Computing, Visual C++, Visual SourceSafe, Mantis, FogBugz, Windows 2000, Windows XP, Solaris, Linux, Installshield, Rational Purify, CppUnit, SQL, XML, Java, JDK 1.4, Extreme Programming (XP).*

### Senior Developer, Information Balance: 2002 – 2003

Led the technical design of, and instituted iterative development for a web application automating apprenticeship service for the Ministry of Trades, Colleges, and Universities.

*Java, J2EE, Struts, Ant, JUnit, HtmlUnit, WebSphere Application Developer, WebSphere Application Server, SQL, PL/SQL, Oracle, JDBC, XML, XSLT, Visual Basic for Applications, Excel, JavaScript, Java Server Pages (JSP), Windows XP.*

*It's been my great pleasure and honor to work with you these past few months, and I only regret we weren't able to spend more time working together directly... It's been educational, illuminating, and fun having you around, and the team is poorer for your departure.*

—Avid Grimm

*Reg and I worked together for a year and a half. During that time, he spearheaded the effort to produce JProbe Threadalyzer, and then shepherded the entire JProbe suite through two subsequent upgrade releases. By that time, Threadalyzer had all but eliminated its competition in the Java thread analysis space, and JProbe had become KL's major source of revenue.*

*When we built Threadalyzer, Reg developed the technical design, partitioned it into manageable pieces for a group of developers, and also wrote a significant chunk of the code himself. Along the way, he insisted on regular code reviews, asking appropriate and probing questions about design decisions. I read his code, too (he wouldn't have it any other way), but I had a hard time finding flaws. The result was probably the most solid codebase that I've ever worked on. During the year of "maintenance mode" work that I witnessed, we were frantically patching most of the rest of the system, but Reg's Threadalyzer core was hardly touched, the motto being not to fix what wasn't broken.*

—Christian Jaekl

*Reg brings to bear the ability to identify the necessary results and drive to completion. He listens well and demonstrates the rare ability to understand the business objectives and ensure that the technical products he delivers provide tangible benefits throughout the organization. Reg also has polished communication and presentation skills and was often called upon to participate in client meetings.*

—**Prem K. Malik**

*Reg hired me as a senior developer to work on a new product. Reg led the team and did all the high-level design. Since the team was small and the timeframe short, Reg was also coding a good portion of the product.*

*Over that time I obviously had a great deal of contact with Reg's design and his code, and both were excellent. The project was completed on time and was successful. Thanks to clean design and code, it has gone through several releases with major new features added without significant changes to the original structure (of the design or the code).*

*I'd love to work for or with Reg again; given our industry I'm sure our paths will cross again, and I'm looking forward to it.*

—**John MacMillan**

### **Management Consultant to Novator Systems: 2002**

Created a product development road map for the company's automated self-service research efforts. Defined roles, processes, and gating criteria for shipping a successful product over the company's 22 engineers and leads. Conducted development training.

### **Vice-President of Development, Conversagent: 2000 – 2001**

Instituted agile product development, managed team growth, and led the development team. Personally created the server architecture and collaborated with the President on sales calls and business development.

*Visual C++, Visual Basic, Visual SourceSafe, Java, J2EE, SOAP, XML, JSP.*

### **Development Manager, KL Group (now part of Quest Software): 1998 – 2000**

Led development of JProbe Threadalyzer, 1.0. Managed four teams developing JProbe Suite (JProbe Threadalyzer, JProbe Memory Debugger, JProbe Profiler, and JProbe Coverage), shipping two major market-leading releases on schedule. Introduced HP/UX support and J2EE support.

Introduced iterative development to the company. Managed 18 reports and three team leads. Conducted press engagements. Spoke at conferences on the subject of empirical software development processes and conducted training.

*Visual C++, GCC (Gnu C++), Java JDK 1.0–1.2, JVM Source Code, JVMPI, JVMDI, J2EE, Visual SourceSafe, Rational Purify, Gnats, VisualAge for Java (now Eclipse), WebSphere Application Server (WAS), BEA WebLogic, BEA Tuxedo, Windows, Linux, HP/UX.*

### **Micro-ISV, Consultant and Managing Partner, Codestorm: 1985 – 1998**

Led technical development of, and shipped version 1.0 of nCrypt for Apple Newton, Firestorm Dynamic Web Server, Dharma automated publisher, Gallery web photo publisher, CMS Customer Relationship Manager (CRM).

Developed and shipped various database publishing applications for the print media industry, including the classified advertising and directory industries.

*C++, Java, J2EE, Servlets, NewtonScript, 4th Dimension, Lightspeed C, SQL, Scheme/Lisp, Turbo Pascal, MP/M, CP/M, Windows, MacOS.*