

# Chris Prather

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## Work Experience

### **PRL/Opentrons - New York NY (remote) (500+ employees)**

PRL/Opentrons is a fast growing startup in the healthcare industry.

**Director of Software – 04/2022 to Present – 40 hours / week**

**Lead Software Engineer – 6/2021 to 04/2022 – 40 hours / week**

**Senior Software Engineer – 4/2021 to 06/2021 – 40 hours / week**

The Software department at PRL is responsible for all in-house developed software, including our custom Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS), Client Portal, and Electronic Lab Reporting (ELR).

#### **Duties and Responsibilities**

I participated in and oversaw the software department as it grew from a single team of 5 people to several functional working groups of 2 engineering managers and 17 developers.

#### **Attention to Detail**

- Worked directly to improve our deployment process to be repeatable and transitioned from a responsibility of the senior engineers to the on-call engineer.
- Established and championed an RFC process to document large scale technical decisions and department level policies
- Worked with external vendors and our Tech Lead to transition our diagnosis reporting from sFTP to HTTP

#### **Customer Service**

- Worked with leadership in other departments to coordinate deliverables from software on projects ranging from a high throughput Next Generation Sequencing (NGS) workflow, to new diagnostic tests, to in-lab automation.
- Developed and documented (as an RFC) our career ladder for the Software department

- Developed and revised based on team feedback a hiring loop that focused on minimizing the impact on both candidates and team members while getting the best signals for suitability

### **Oral Communication**

- Participated in weekly meetings providing updates to senior management on the timelines for our projects.
- Had regular 1:1s with my direct reports and eventually my skip-level reports, as well as our relevant partners in Product and the PMO
- Developed and mentored the engineering managers on the HR guided annual performance review process

### **Problem Solving**

- Lead a process to migrate the department from a traditional team structure to ad-hoc feature teams/working groups
- Worked with Product and the PMO to build and agile development cycle that focused on making sure the right people had the right conversations at the right time
- Identified the need and successfully participated in the hiring process for a VP of Engineering for PRL
- Identified, planned, and executed with HR a hiring roadmap

## **Joyent – San Francisco CA (Remote) (100 Employees)**

Joyent is a subsidiary of Samsung Electronics specializing in Cloud Computing.

### **Cloud Deployment Engineer – 06/2018 to 4/2021 - 40 hours / week**

The cloud deployment team is responsible for the preflight configuration and validation of machines before they were released for production use in our cloud services environment.

### **Duties and Responsibilities**

Initially I maintained the UI/UX of our build validation system Conch. Worked with the team lead to identify, interview and hire a new developer to take over the maintenance of the UI/UX component. I worked on several projects related to build automation, including proof of concept for a Data Center Inventory Management system. I took over the build operations platform and duties.

### **Attention to Detail**

- Started transitioning preflight workflow tools to Go from Perl + Shell to improve maintainability by the larger team.
- Assisted in or Performed build operations tasks for several expansions, requiring monitoring dozens of machines at various stages of the build process.

- Rebuilt preflight operations infrastructure migrating it to Ansible, a configuration management tool, for consistent and maintainable deployment.
- Documented of preflight operations workflows, preflight infrastructure, and software components.

### **Customer Service**

- Took over hands-on build preflight operations for preparing new machines for the production environment. This required working with the expansion Project Manager to maintain the schedule of releases. And working with the Datacenter and Network Operations staff to diagnose and resolve hardware and software configuration failures on machines during validation.

### **Oral Communication**

- Identified, interviewed, and recommended for hire a new front end developer for [conch-ui and maintain](#).
- Gave presentations on the current state and future direction for build operations infrastructure.

### **Problem Solving**

- Maintained [conch-ui](#) application written in mithril.js until a new version in Vue.js could be developed and released.
- Wrote proof of concept Bill of Material/Datacenter Inventory Management application [Conch-Locker](#) using Perl's Mojolicious::Lite and Postgres.
- Learned Go to take over maintenance and development of [conch-shell](#) and [kosh](#) the command line (CLI) clients for the Conch API. stakeholders and co-workers on the infrastructure and architecture.
- Re-wrote preflight [Firmware Agent](#) from legacy Shell (bash) scripts to modern Go architecture.

## **Tamarou LLC - Orlando FL (3 Employee)**

Tamarou is a consulting company specializing in primarily web applications with a focus in Perl. The “miracles of ingenuity” that comes with advanced technology should be used to minimize the time spent in unattractive labor, software developers should be craftsmen who take pleasure in their work and produce things that are pleasing to their customers.

### **Managing Partner - 10/2008 to 06/2018 - 40 hours / week**

#### **Duties and Responsibilities**

Managed administrative, business, and legal aspects of this consulting company including finding new contracts, tracking invoices, and work assignments.

### **Attention to Detail**

- Handled the administrative, business, and legal aspects for the company for 10 years.
- Build a testable infrastructure deployment using Ansible.
- Implemented a combat system for a turn based online MMORPG written in Perl.

### **Customer Service**

- Identified, recruited, and mainted new customers and employees.
- Managed the team re-developing the content management application for an Alexa Top 100 video on demand website using Perl's Catalyst (comparable to Ruby on Rails) and MySQL.

### **Oral Communication**

- Happy Campers: Lessons Learned From Scouting's Premiere Leadership Course (scheduled) 06/2019 The Perl Conference - Pittsburgh, PA
- I Never Metaphor I Didn't Like: How Cognitive Linguistics Makes You a More Badass Programmer (scheduled) 08/2016 South East Linux Fest - Charlotte, NC
- The Secret Diary of a Small Perl Shop (scheduled) 06/2012 Yet Another Perl Conference North America - Madison, WI

### **Problem Solving**

- Designed several REST APIs using JSON, Perl, Postgres and MySQL.
- Designed a real time sales fulfillment engine, identified that the current system's failure to scale was it's synchronous nature. Researched message passing systems (0mq, Kafka, NSQ etc.) ended up using RabbitMQ. Wrote the initial version of the Crixia Perl module to better fit with the RabbitMQ development style.

## **Callsheet LLC - Los Angeles, CA (Remote) (3 employees)**

Callsheet produces next generation filmmaking pre-production software.

### **Founder - 08/2011 to 06/2018 - 10 hours / week**

Handled the administrative, business, and legal aspects of this early stage startup. Assisted with architecture and design for both the REST API, and EmberJS based UI.

## **HD Publishing Group, Development Team - Lake Mary FL (50 employees)**

An internet marketing and data aggregation company that develops services to provide the public with access to information in a consumer-friendly manner.

### **Programmer - 10/2008 to 08/2009 - 40 hours / week**

Made significant changes to the order processing system, reducing code duplication and adding more verification of user entered data. Added a system to track updates to customer billing accounts and update internal records so that automatic re-billing would work seamlessly. Helped implement integration with a third party credit card verification system. Built an on-demand reporting system to perform business intelligence queries for Marketing and Upper Management. Researched developing a graph oriented data-store linking potentially hundreds of millions of records based on latent semantic criteria. Introduced modern Perl frameworks such as Moose, and DBIx::Class into the development process, and migrated the code source control system from Subversion to Git. I assisted developers in getting up to speed with the new systems and technology.

### **Infinity Interactive - Manhasset, NY (Remote) (8 Employees)**

We're not your typical dev shop; not your typical IT consulting firm. We've been here since 1998—before the “dot-com” boom (the first one) and long enough to maybe even have a little grey in our hair. You can't come to our office, because we don't have an office.

#### **Software Developer - 03/2007 to 10/2008 - 40 hours / week**

Worked on large Catalyst and DBIx::Class based websites, and developed backend applications for offline processing using Moose and POE.

### **Reuters, Fixed Income Pricing - St. Paul MN (5000 Employees)**

The Fixed Income Pricing Group at Reuters was responsible for the pricing data for all the Fixed Income (Bonds, CMOs, etc) products that Reuters tracked professionally.

#### **Software Engineer — 04/2004 to 03/2007 - 40 hours / week**

Designed and built a web application to allow the Pricing Desk analysts control over Money Market instrument pricing, and web application to allow data analysts access to quality assurance tools for Real Time Composite Pricing. Helped architect and implement the Real Time Composite Pricing cycle infrastructure. Built an application for real time TBA mortgage pricing, and designed several other web based utilities for the Pricing Desk analysts to control the daily pricing cycles.

### **NKD Webmedia - Edinburgh, Scotland (7 employees)**

Bespoke software consultancy specializing in web delivered applications.

#### **Software Developer - 12/2001 to 08/2003 - 40 hours / week**

Designed and implemented a multi-tiered Apache/mod\_perl + SOAP application, and implemented SoQL OO Relational Database language (atop MySQL 3.23). I presented a talk about SoQL at YAPC::EU 2003. Administered several Linux (Gentoo, RH 7.x) boxes running

Apache/mod\_perl & MySQL platforms. Designed and Implemented a large scale SQL Server 2000 Database for a Continuing Professional Development Management system.

## **Volunteer Experience & Causes**

### **CPAN (Comprehensive Perl Archive Network)**

The Comprehensive Perl Archive Network (CPAN) is a repository of over 250,000 software modules and accompanying documentation for 39,000 distributions, written in the Perl programming language by over 12,000 contributors.

#### **Module Author - 04/2003 – Present**

- <https://metacpan.org/author/PERIGRIN>
- One of the core maintainers for Moose, mostly responsible for oose.pm which allows you to write single line scripts on the command line easier.
- Created Task::Kensho primarily to stop Matt Trout's whinging about a kitchen sink included distribution for Perl.
- Worked with the current and original maintainers of Net::Twitter during the re-design and port to Moose.

### **Troop 23, 42 and Pack 42 - Orlando Florida**

Boy Scouts of America Units in Orlando Florida

#### **Assistant Scoutmaster Troop 23 and 42 - 02/2018 to Present**

- Founding Assistant Scoutmaster for Troop 42 (Girls)
- Training Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills

#### **Cubmaster - 02/2013 to 02/2019**

- Woodbadge (S4-83-14-2 Antelope)
- Managed transition to Co-Ed Pack

### **Yet Another Perl Conference (YAPC)**

#### **Lead Conference Organizer**

Yet Another Perl Conference, usually given as the abbreviation YAPC, is a series of conferences discussing the Perl programming language, usually organized under the auspices of The Perl Foundation and Yet Another Society, a "non-profit corporation for the advancement of collaborative efforts in computer and information sciences".

- YAPC::NA 2014 (Orlando, FL) - 300 attendees

- YAPC::NA 2011 (Asheville, NC) - 400 attendees

## **irc.perl.org**

irc.perl.org is a collection of IRC servers run by various members of the Perl community. It is home to hundreds of perl projects, modules and social channels. It is also home to a lot of not-perl projects and the like.

### **IRC Operator - January 2013 - Present**

- Maintain a node on the IRC network, work as a network administrator (Oper) and act as a community liaison.

## **Education**

**BA, English: Technical Communication 2001 — University of Central Florida**

**AA, General Studies 1997 - Valencia Community College**

## **Honors & Awards**

### **White Camel Award 2015 - The Perl Foundation**

“Chris Prather, also known as perigrin, has been a tireless community leader for the Orlando Perl mongers and a conference organizer for Perl Oasis, YAPC::NA 2011 in Asheville, and YAPC::NA 2014 in Orlando.” - brian d foy