

Neale Douglas Morison

Curriculum Vitae November 2009

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Overview

Neale Morison is a writer of words and code.

In August 2007 to June 2008 he spent a year in Cambridge, Massachusetts, writing and attending courses at MIT and Harvard. He has now returned to Sydney.

Neale Morison's recent roles have combined technical writing and development with analysis, design, project management and general management tasks. His experience includes over fifteen years in software development, IT writing, technical writing and journalism, and Internet development. Hardware experience includes electronics research and development environments and Web server, network and PC administration and support.



As a communicator, in the role of editor, journalist or web content developer, Neale is able to deliver in a large range of styles to meet the specific needs of his audience. His output includes technical books, manuals, news, features, reviews, and public relations. In 2000 he won an industry writing award for his [The End](#) column in the Australian Industry Standard. His Web sites have also won awards. In 2008 Nature Journal published two of his stories.

As a developer Neale has a command of many languages and systems. His experience includes design, debugging and documentation of hardware and software. He seeks challenging roles that draw on his communication, development and management skills.

Contact Details

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Skills and Background

- [Technical Writing](#) – G2 Microsystems, [VaST Systems Technology](#), [Bullant](#), Hard Copy
- Management - [Intermedia](#), [Fujitsu Australia](#), [IDG Communications](#), [VaST Systems Technology](#)
- Online content management - [Intermedia](#), [Fujitsu Australia](#), [IDG Communications](#)
- Online production - [Intermedia](#), [Fujitsu Australia](#), [IDG Communications](#)
- Web site design, programming and management - [Intermedia](#), [Fujitsu Australia](#), [IDG Communications](#)

- Magazine editing - [PC World](#), Computer Magazine Group
- [Writing](#)
- Computer journalism - [PC World](#), PC Week, Freelance, Columnist
- [Software development](#) – Analytical Models, [VaST Systems Technology](#), [Bullant](#), [Intermedia](#), [Fujitsu Australia](#), [IDG Communications](#)
- Lecturer - [Macquarie University](#), [Australian Society for Technical Communication](#)
- Electronics hardware test, debug, research and development - [Cisco WNBU Sydney](#), [Fairlight](#)
- IT hardware support - [Intermedia](#), [IDG Communications](#)

Recent Roles

- Technical Writer, [G2 Microsystems](#)
- [Freelance Writer, Musician, Student](#)
- Perl Developer – Analytical Models
- Manager - [VaST Systems Technology](#)
- Technical Writer, Solutions Developer - [VaST Systems Technology](#), [Cisco WNBU Sydney](#), [Bullant](#)
- Technical Writer - Cisco APIDC
- Internet Developer - Techne-ventures
- Project manager, online development - [Intermedia](#)
- Online content manager - [Fujitsu Australia](#), [IDG Communications](#)
- Web producer - [Fujitsu Australia](#), [IDG Communications](#)
- Online content developer - [Fujitsu Australia](#), [IDG Communications](#)
- Online software developer - [Intermedia](#), [Fujitsu Australia](#), [IDG Communications](#)
- Editor - [PC World](#), Computer Magazine Group
- Journalist - [PC World](#)

Industries

- Information technology - [Cisco WNBU Sydney](#), Cisco APIDC, [Bullant](#), [Intermedia](#), [Fujitsu Australia](#), Hard Copy, Quoin Information Services
- Electronics Research and Development – [G2 Microsystems](#), [VaST Systems Technology](#), [Fairlight](#), [Cisco WNBU Sydney](#)
- Internet - [Intermedia](#), [Fujitsu Australia](#), [IDG Communications](#)
- Publishing - [IDG Communications](#), [PC World](#), Computer Magazine Group, [PC Week](#), Freelance, Columnist

Technical Writing

[G2 Microsystems](#), [Cisco WNBU Sydney](#), Cisco APIDC, [Bullant](#), Hard Copy, Quoin, Odyssey Development, Fairlight, and many others. Technical and user manuals, specifications, procedures, for programmers, users, administrators, using a variety of desktop publishing tools

Writing

Nature Journal Futures section, 2 pieces 2008, The End column for The Australian Industry Standard, May 2000 - December 2000 - Winner of Australian Business Publishers (ABP) Award for best opinion column, 2000

Discover Windows 95, Webster Publishing, 1995, ISBN: 1-86398-175-6

News, features and reviews in The Australian Industry Standard, [PC World](#), PC Buyer, APC, PC Week, [The Sydney Morning Herald](#), [The Age](#) and others. Marketing press releases, technical product releases, brochures. See also [Technical Writing](#), above.

Software Development

Languages and development platforms

Microsoft Access, Microsoft Visual Basic, Microsoft Excel

Perl (preference for object oriented Perl), Python, PHP, SQL (Mysql, SQL Server, Oracle), Java, JavaScript, C, C++, HTML, XML XSL FO, ColdFusion, various microprocessor assemblers, Vignette, Matlab, Lisp-derived languages, JavaDoc, Doxygen.

Areas of development

Automated documentation producing PDF, HTML and other formats, Web design, Web database publishing, Web content management, Windows and SQL database design, desktop publishing

Operating Systems and Environments

Windows 2000, Windows NT, Windows, DOS, Unix (Linux, Solaris), WWW CGI and Java

Web servers and related technology

Microsoft Internet Information Server (IIS), Apache, Lotus Domino, ColdFusion Enterprise Server

Applications

- **Microsoft:** Word, Excel, Access, Publisher, PowerPoint
- **Various text editors:** UltraEdit, VIM, Emacs
- **Graphics:** Adobe Photoshop, PaintShop Pro, Adobe Illustrator, Visio, Fireworks, Gimp, GnuPlot
- **Desktop Publishing:** MS Publisher, Ventura, QuarkXPress, PageMaker, FrameMaker, InDesign, TeX
- **Documentation:** Robohelp, Doxygen, Javadoc
- **Version Control:** CVS, Subversion and others

Academic Qualifications

- Bachelor of Science (Applied Mathematics): University of New South Wales
- Associate Diploma of Jazz Studies: NSW Conservatorium of Music

Training

- Java, Sydney University Continuing Education, 1997
- C++, Microsoft Institute, 1993
- C and Pascal, University of NSW 1986
- Scriptwriting Certificate, Australian Film and Television School

Employment History

Technical Writer, G2 Microsystems

August 2008 to October 2009

G2 develops low power Wi-Fi chips. Responsible for user documentation and internal documentation. Produced data sheets, user guides, example applications in C. Developed automated documentation solutions in Python, LaTeX, XML.

Freelance Writer, Musician, Student

August 2007 to June 2008

MIT and Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts

Senior Programmer, Analytical Models

March 2007 to August 2007

Developed optimisation engine for cellular phone provider CRM system in Perl.

Manager, Testing and Release Group, VaST Systems Technology

August 2005 to March 2007

Managed software testing and release group. 3-4 reports. Handled management, procedure documentation and automation of testing and release systems, some responsibility for IT.

Developed intranet, testing and utility applications in PHP, Perl, Python and MySQL.

Technical Writer, Solutions Developer, VaST Systems Technology

June 2004 to July 2005

VaST Systems Technology creates solutions for modeling and simulation in embedded systems design.

Responsibilities included:

- managing technical documentation
- writing and editing of hundreds of documents including tutorials, user guides, technical references, application notes and design specifications.
- documentation automation solutions

Projects included:

- Processing, graphical and tabular presentation of software simulation results
- XSL Transformation to produce reports on simulation structures and models
- XML/XSLT Document Management System
- SQL reports
- Producing CHM Html Help files from Word documents Visual Basic, Perl
- Automated source documentation with Doxygen. This required additional XSLT and Perl processing.

Technical Writer, Applications Developer, Cisco WNBUS Sydney

June 2002 to February 2004

Documentation automation, with some laboratory testing and other responsibilities. Cisco WNBUS (Wireless Networking Business Unit) Sydney (originally Radiata, later purchased by Cisco) developed integrated circuit chips and related applications for wireless networking. I worked closely with hardware and software engineers, writing documentation and provided automated documentation solutions. Development projects included:

- Processing and presentation of software simulation results - graphs and tables of test results, highlighting deviations from specified performance. Languages, tools, platforms: Cadence Ocean script (Lisp related), Perl, gnuplot.
- Automatic generation of PDF and HTML documentation - Accurate, well formatted documents several hundred pages in length generated in a few minutes. Languages and tools: Python, XML, XSLT, XSL:FO, FOP, PDF, HTML, Perl
- WNBUS Sydney Intranet - Redesign of the intranet to prepare for ISO auditing and improve inter group communication. HTML, JavaScript
- Test boards database - A Perl/CGI intranet application. Language, Platforms, tools: Windows/Apache/MySQL, Linux/Apache/MySQL, Solaris/Oracle, Perl, Javascript.
- Python unit testing and some additional routines for a cross-platform testboard GUI

Languages, platforms, applications and technologies: Mysql, Oracle, Javascript, XML/XSL, Perl, Python, Ocean, HTML, CGI, Matlab, CVS, Unix (Linux and Solaris), Windows, MS Word, Adobe FrameMaker.

Senior Technical Writer, Bullant

May 2001 to November 2001

Documentation, development of automated electronic documentation systems and sample applications. JavaDoc, Perl, XML/XSLT, Javascript

IT Manager, Project Manager, Intermedia.com Pty Ltd

April 2000 to February 2001

Web development, project management, IT management. Planning strategy, managing development and building of B2B (business to business) and B2C (business to consumer) Web sites in which many hundreds of suppliers maintain their own sites. Six direct reports.

Web Communications Manager, Fujitsu Australia Limited

March 1999 to April 2000

Development, production and management role in the marketing department, involving management of Fujitsu Australia Web site at www.fujitsu.com.au and intranet.

Manager Electronic Services, Editor in Chief, Electronic Publishing, IDG Communications

November 1996 to December 1998

Build and manage IDG Communications award winning (APB 1998) web presence providing online services for magazines including ComputerWorld, PC World, ARN, PC Buyer, IT Marketer, CIO and online services such as IT directory, email newsletters, PR publishing.

Editor, PC World, IDG Communications

May 1996 to November 1996

Manage editorial budget, hire staff, oversee content, design covers with graphic artists, liaise with display advertising sales staff, report to publisher. Two direct reports plus contributors.

Technical writing, journalism and editing roles, freelance, contract and permanent

Quoin, Hard Copy, PC Week, APC, PC World, Sydney Morning Herald, Age, Computer Magazine Group, IDG Communications, Cisco and others: 1987 – 2004

Fairlight Instruments

1982 to 1986

Fairlight was an electronics research and development company. Products included the CMI digital synthesiser and CVI video effects unit. Debugging of PCBs, lab work, technical writing (user manual). Worked in testing lab, development lab and as documentation manager with one report.