

## **JAMES M. RIFE**

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### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

#### **ESP Solutions Group, Inc.**

Vice President, Product Development (2006 – Present)

Jim Rife has primary responsibility for all product development and service hosting engagements for ESP. Mr. Rife directs the software development team, acts as the senior business analyst for all software projects, and manages the Information Technology resources for the company. Mr. Rife is most directly involved with the oversight of the State Report Manager™ (SRM) and DataSpecs®. In addition to these responsibilities, Mr. Rife has acted as ESP Senior Technical Director for the Delaware and Tennessee Longitudinal Data Systems projects. These were the first two longitudinal data systems funded by the Race to the Top federal grants.

Additionally, Mr. Rife is the ESP Project Director for the Wyoming Integrated Statewide Education (WISE) project. This project implements SRM and other advanced technologies to provide an integrated data solution for the seamless presentation of educational data to all participants in the Educational process in Wyoming.

Before assuming responsibilities as Vice President, Mr. Rife acted as Implementation Manager for ESP. This experience provides Mr. Rife with a unique understanding of the educational market served by ESP. In addition to daily contact with the ESP end user communities in multiple states, mostly LEA users of SRM, the position required regular and hands-on experience implementing the SIF data standards. Wyoming has implemented SRM collections using SIF as the data collection mechanism for three consecutive years in Wyoming. Most of the district SIF zones were physically configured by Mr. Rife during his tenure as implementation manager.

#### **Uplogix, Inc.**

Quality Assurance Manager (2006)

Mr. Rife directed a 5-person team of engineers in providing field support services and automated and manual testing of the ENVOY network appliance product and a tomcat server-based Envoy Management Server (EMS). ENVOY was a prototype network appliance which provided emergency network access to circumvent network failures.

#### **MessageOne, Inc.**

*Staff Engineer (2005-2006)*

Mr. Rife was the primary test engineer for OneSwitch, a BEA Weblogic based hosted service, which used remote agents to monitor and replicate Exchange Mail servers, and which would automatically detect mail service outages and initiate fail-over to a target backup environment. The positions involved the setup and management of ESX virtual hosted environments with complex DZS and Exchange services components.

#### **Alterpoint, Inc.**

Engineering Manager (2002-2005)

Mr. Rife was the primary engineering manager at Alterpoint responsible for the processes used to develop and deploy high quality enterprise software. Mr. Rife directed a team that designed the build, test, and production release processes using exceptionally high levels of test automation and software metric analysis. The focus was on highly automated server-side unit testing and automated test coverage analysis. In the second year, when the product was deployed for the first customer engagement, Mr. Rife composed and directed an integrated, multi-disciplined team of software

development and test engineers and network analysts to establish enterprise level performance for the product for a potential critical enterprise sale using software and database profiling utilities.

#### **SNS Technologies, Inc.**

Director of Engineering (2001 – 2002)

SNS Technologies Inc. is a subsidiary of SNS Technologies Pvt. Ltd., based in India. Mr. Rife was responsible for directing all U.S. operations in providing quality engineering services, in developing new and improved service offerings, and in marketing these services to companies in the U.S. A major initiative for the U.S. engineering team was to design and lead the development of a Java middleware testing framework.

Mr. Rife was also responsible for directing the engineering efforts of the quality assurance teams in India. A key element in these efforts has been to raise the engineering discipline and improve the processes used in delivery of services.

#### **Agillion, Inc.**

Quality Assurance Manager (2000 – 2001)

Agillion was a fast-moving startup which grew from a few dozen to over one hundred employees in the two years Mr. Rife acted as quality assurance manager. There were enormous challenges in growing an integrated testing team, providing a testing infrastructure in both equipment and software framework, and in working with product marketing and development to clarify and disambiguate the product goals.

#### **Tivoli Systems, Inc.**

Staff Engineer (1995 – 2000)

Tivoli Systems is perhaps the most famous and successful software startup in Austin history. After its IPO in 1995, four months before Mr. Rife was hired, it was sold in 1997 to IBM where the Tivoli Management Environment (TME) has become one of the IBM flagship products. Mr. Rife was involved in testing a variety of products at Tivoli and in learning and extending the automated test environment. This framework allowed integrated testing of software components for multiple TME products on platforms covering a broad range of Unix as well as the Windows Server software stacks. It was at Tivoli where Mr. Rife first had exposure to the enterprise software development market, and it was in an environment of uncompromised commitment to getting things right for the customer. The success at Tivoli was not an accident; it resulted from every employee being empowered to perform at their highest potential on behalf of the customers. No excuses or exceptions on product or service quality were tolerated.

#### **Lockheed Corporation (now, Lockheed Martin Corporation)**

Various Engineering Roles (1981 – 1995)

In various software engineering positions at Lockheed, Mr. Rife concentrated on areas of research in advanced technologies for electronics intelligence. Over fourteen years, his positions included computer systems administration, software development, OOA/OOD, project management, and business development for DARPA funded contracts related to advanced battlefield applications. During the last 4 years, Mr. Rife worked in business development for classified projects for the DoD which involved the translation and presentation of existing company technical capabilities into detailed solutions for complex problems.

#### **EDUCATION**

B.S. in Computer Sciences – Purdue University (1981)