

Jim Boston

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Elevator Pitch

Engineer and problem solver. At a stage in life where my main goal is to help others to reach their goals. Experienced in low- and high-level design, and I have basic software programming skills, a solid engineering background, and good project management skills. Able to communicate effectively. I work well by myself or as a part of a large team. That means not only doing my part, but also looking out for the team also. I am extremely comfortable dealing with others and have a good sense of humor.

Presentation

1) Assertion:

Great social and people interaction skills

Attestation:

Have been involved with the Auburn, Ca and surrounding community for many years. Was an officer and president of a local fraternal organization. In 2017 lead effort that spanned Auburn, Grass Valley, and Nevada City to raise funds for a child's liver transplant. Raised almost \$30K in three weeks. Know how to sell ideas and keep them sold. Able to talk in front of large groups. Also know when to lead, and just as important, when to follow.

Caveat:

Not able to sell refrigerators to Eskimos.

2) Assertion:

Good project management skills

Attestation:

Led multiple engineering efforts to build new or retrofit existing television broadcasting technical centers and master controls. In one case converted an analog system to digital one in the same location footprint while the facility stayed in operation. Understand the project process from conceptual through physical layout, detailed design, implementation, commissioning, testing, and punch list phases.

Caveat:

No official pieces of paper that attests to my knowledge.

3) Assertion:

Basic web programming ability

Attestation:

My website: All HTML, CSS, and Javascript programming are my own. Code in Notepad+ and Atom. Have been exposed to React, PHP, Jira, and Github.

Caveat:

No back-end experience to speak of, but I do have a basic understanding of databases. Also, as my site might indicate, I'm not a graphic designer.

4) Assertion:

Basic software development understanding

Attestation:

I have written large amounts of VBA code for Excel to automate numerous worksheet functions and procedures. Have written code that allows Excel to generate equipment rack elevations, that also calculates the necessary ancillary engineering requirements and attributes associated with populating

those racks. Also have implemented code that will pull active electronic equipment out of an equipment list and insert it into a system schematic or synoptic.

Caveat:

Also have written code for archaic languages such as C, C+, and Forth.

5) Assertion:

Great writing skills

Attestation:

Like many engineers early on I thought technical prowess was enough. Eventually I learned that to be truly effective you need to be able to convey ideas and concepts. I've written over 50 articles for television technical journals and magazines. I've also written several white papers for corporate clients. I also wrote a book for McGraw-Hill on how television broadcasters were to transition from analog to digital technology. Also, along with a co-author, wrote the definitive book on how television productions are done on location.

Caveat:

While I understand the mechanics of the English language and I can edit the work of others I do not consider myself a copy editor. I consider myself upstream from them generally.

6) Assertion:

Great attention to details

Attestation:

Original interest in VBA for Excel was to check for errors in equipment lists and other spreadsheets; in addition, used VBA for computing equipment rack weights, power loading, and heat loading in large system designs.

Caveat:

Still only human, so when possible, I automate tasks to minimize errors.

7) Assertion:

Good teacher and mentor

Attestation:

Good science background; good math skills (goes beyond basic math). Love conveying what I know to others.

Caveat:

Again, no official pieces of paper that certify that.

8) Assertion:

Good personal attributes (IMHO).

Attestation:

Quick study; in good physical shape; Pride myself in admitting when I don't know something, but then go and try to plug that knowledge gap.

Caveat:

Refer back to 6, only human.

Education:

- Cleveland State University, Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering 1993
- Received the student leadership award from the Electrical Engineering department for Student Leadership as spearhead of the school's entry into a robotic vehicle competition
- Also, took first place in my senior year in the engineering competition week ping-pong ball harvest contest, building my entry from discarded VTR parts

et al.

Father and Grandfather, like to bike and hike, read and write, and be outdoors. Love to laugh and make others do the same.