Abhay B. Joshi

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Overview

Abhay B. Joshi is presently a researcher/writer/teacher/coach.

As a researcher (and teacher), Abhay's area of interest is "Computer Programming as a Medium for Learning". He has been exploring Scratch and Logo to see how students pick up valuable 21st century skills and concepts of math when they do interesting programming projects. He has written books that help parents/teachers/students experiment with this idea.

Abhay works as a professional coach/mentor and helps small businesses as well as individual professionals in addressing their current challenges and opening up future opportunities through dialog and team-work. Abhay has had 20 years of working experience, which includes the entrepreneurial experience of running his own software services business for about 12 years.

As a writer, Abhay writes non-fiction pieces about programming, education, personal philosophy, and professional development. In addition, he also likes to write stories that touch upon philosophical and emotional aspects of the life of today's global professional.

Career highlights

- ▶ Started a research and teaching activity (SPARK Institute) in the field of "learning through programming". Designed and taught courses using Scratch/Logo/Alice at schools in Pune and Seattle. Wrote and published a book on "Logo Programming" for children. (Aug 2007 – till date)

- ▶ Executive VP at Aztecsoft: Headed the iTest independent test practice (which was formed through the acquisition of Disha Technologies), and was responsible for R&D, Training, Process, Sales support, and Delivery Excellence activities related to Software Testing. (3 years)

- Co-founder and CEO of Disha Technologies – a company co-located in Bellevue USA and Pune India, which specialized in independent software testing for ISVs. (7 years)

- Consulting work for Motorola, Microsoft, and Palindrome in requirements analysis, software development, and testing. (3 years)

- Unix kernel/application development: enhancement of TCP/IP network protocols, and security product development (4 years)

Business positions held

- Director, Cognisha Private Limited, Pune (Sep 2008 – till date)
- Executive Vice President, Aztecsoft Limited, Pune (Dec 2004 – Mar 2008)
- CEO and Co-founder, Disha Technologies (offices in Seattle and Pune) (Dec 1994 – Nov 2004)
- Software Developer, Addamax Corporation, Champaign (Dec 90 – Nov 94)
- Software Developer, Interactive Systems Corporation, Santa Monica (Jan 1988 – Nov 1990)
- Application Engineer, Datapro Electronics, Pune (Nov 1985 – Jul 1986)
- Research Scientist, DEBEL, Bangalore (Oct 1984 – Oct 1985)

Academic achievements

- **6-week online workshop** on **Creative Computing** at MIT, USA (2013)
- **Master of Science** in **Computer Engineering** (Dec 1988)
  Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY 13244
- **Bachelor of Engineering** in **Instrumentation** (Jun 1984)
  College of Engineering, University of Poona, Pune, India
- Ranked 6th overall in the Merit list of HSC (Higher Secondary Certificate) examination conducted by the Pune-Mumbai divisional board (1980).
- Ranked 15th overall in the Merit list of SSC (Secondary School Certificate) examination conducted by the Pune-Mumbai divisional board (1978). First place in English and Sanskrit.

Miscellaneous

Interests include music (playing violin and keyboard), literature, philosophy, computer programming, education, and professional helping.

Last updated: 16 July 2013