

# Curriculum Vitae

---

*name* Dr Robert James Finean  
*address* London, UK  
*telephone* *mobile* +44 7932 019 367  
*email* rfinean@gmail.com  
*date of birth* 1967  
*nationality* British and Irish  
*marital status* Civil Partnership

---

## Résumé

Products that palpably improve people's lives: Currently my passion is accurate medical vital signs monitoring and its use in preventing accidents due to fatigue. I am a chartered communications systems engineer with 15 years experience in the aerospace industry and 20+ years building mobile communications services and systems and managing their implementation worldwide. I have Masters and Doctorate degrees in Electronic Engineering and Satellite Communications and successfully manage outsourcing to multiple international contractors as well as agile development in close-knit teams. In 2002 I led Pogo's award-winning mobile web browser development from proof-of concept to product launch in just 9 months. I launched the mobile web across Europe in 2005 with T-Mobile's web'n'walk product. I enabled millions of people to use the web for the very first time in 2007, through the feature-phones they already owned, with the rollout of WiderWeb in Africa. I have been innovating using Internet data on the move ever since.

## Skills

*Systems* End-to-end system design, enabled by expertise in customer requirements capture, communications and computing hardware, software, modelling and simulation. Development of system architecture, interface and sub-system requirements definition. Contractor management, risk analysis and due diligence. Validation and integration of contractor deliverables and system commissioning.

*Management* Engineering project management including financial forecasting, budget control and team management. Experience in making ISO 9000 and processes like Agile and Prince 2 work for both clients and vendors.

*Software* C/C++ for OOP and real-time programming and Node.js, Python or PHP for web servers. Program for HTML5/CSS/JavaScript, Unix, Windows and SMS/email user interfaces and embedded systems. Mission-critical software verification methods.

*Protocols* 3G cellular, UMTS, GPRS, ISDN, TCP/IP, HTTP, mobile wireless and satellite systems.

*Electronics* Digital circuit design, ASIC design, analogue design below 1MHz, RF measurements and design for manufacture.

*Driving* Full clean European driving license.

I am a member of the IET and the IEEE and am registered with The Engineering Council as a Chartered Engineer.

## Employment

2016 ~ now                      Canaria  
Medical vital signs monitoring  
**Job Title: Chief Technology Officer**

I'm developing the fatigue management applications for our NASA award-winning wireless unobtrusive vital signs monitor.

2012 ~ 2016                      Freelance  
Mobile Internet consultancy

I advise and guide mobile data system architectures to make Internet applications work great for their customers on mobile phones. I mentor CTOs, Product Managers and Project Managers.

2015 Co-founded Hacktrain winner Spon**traineous**, bringing last minute leisure bargains to UK train passengers.

2014 Co-founded Eureka Languages. Worked with Médecins Sans Frontières on Air Triage, using drones to scout over the horizon in disaster areas.

2013 Seedhack winner Oppozzeit, finding alternative points of view to a given news article.

2012 Co-founded a 4500+ strong meetup community of UK hackathon talent.  
Worked with Human Rights Watch and Ummeli on Jobs To Avoid.

2009 ~ 2012                      Bytemobile Inc  
Mobile web optimisation equipment supplier to carriers  
**Job Title: Director of Value Added Services & Products**

I was responsible for developing solutions to mobile network operators' unique needs where Bytemobile products could be customised to add even more value for the mobile network operator:

2011 Integrated our custom analytics and content-insertion value-added features into the Bytemobile product portfolio for marketing to all our customers, creating the Bytemobile Insight analytics product.

2010 Worked with analytics specialist Amethon to find out what effects the explosion of smartphone use was having on operators' packet radio networks and to mitigate the threats that were found.

2009 Designed & prototyped various solutions for web content-insertion and established appropriate partnerships for commercial operations. Applications included operator notifications for billing and promotions, mobile navigation toolbars and adapting Adobe Flash movies to work on iPads and iPhones.

2006 ~ 2009                      Openwave Systems Inc  
Start-up mobile web technology developer  
**Job Title: Open Internet Products Manager**

I was responsible for developing an accessibility tool for blind web users into a carrier-grade gateway for on-the-fly transcoding of long-tail desktop websites, making them fully functional on mobile phones:

2008 Deepening Openwave's Open Internet solution to include audio/video adaptation and streaming, data warehousing and analytics and advertising products.

- 2007 Openwave Systems Inc acquired WiderWeb Ltd and I continued to manage the Web Adapter product's development and deployment in European and African Vodafone countries and in the US at Sprint. I also worked with the W3C on standards for content adaptation.
- 2006 As Director of a small start-up company, WiderWeb Ltd, we brought full web browsing to all phones on Hutchison 3's UK and Ireland networks as part of 3's X-Series tariffs and Yahoo! oneSearch.

## 2003 ~ 2005 T-Mobile International

Multinational mobile phone operator holding company  
**Job Title: Senior Internet Services Projects Manager**

I was responsible for the enabling technologies that deliver Internet services for T-Mobile's highest profile content products across all of Europe.

- 2005 Managed the web'n'walk product launch, allowing customers unrestricted web browsing on the Internet from their smartphone.
- 2004 Developed the MMS platform to deliver video and picture-story goal alerts for the Euro 2004 football tournament.
- 2003 Upgrades to the international t-zones WAP and Web portal.

## 2001 ~ 2003 Pogo Mobile Solutions Ltd

Start-up mobile web technology developer  
**Job Title: Head of Mobile Web Technology**



I was responsible for developing Pogo's revolutionary mobile phone and web proxy compression technology, which delivers the full web-browsing Internet experience to the PDA-style Pogo mobile phone using 2001's GSM networks. Whilst O<sub>2</sub>'s XDA marketing drowned Pogo, its technological breakthroughs found their way into Opera Mini and the iPhone.

- 2003 Further developing the Pogo nVoy reference design to enable "frequently connected" data-driven applications inside branded mobile PDA/phones for the executive business market.
- 2002 Doubling the already world-beating speed of the Pogo web browser using GPRS.
- 2001 Production of the first Pogo for consumer launch in the UK, from proof-of-concept prototype into the shops in just nine months.

## 1996 ~ 2001 ICO Global Communications

Global mobile satellite network operator  
**Job Title: Senior System Integration Engineer**

I was the technical project manager responsible for worldwide integration of radio and GSM equipment in the US\$5bn ICO satellite system.

- 1999 Test-bed and on-site integration and acceptance testing of the first delivery of the US\$1bn ground facilities contract with NEC, recovering from ICO's period in Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection.
- 1998 Delivered a complete integration plan for US\$40M of final system integration for service launch (managing all the RFP, proposal evaluation and contract negotiation).
- 1997 In-factory and on-site commissioning of radio equipment at sites worldwide.
- 1996 Planned the integration of radio equipment from three independent supply contracts: (i) ground facilities, (ii) satellites and (iii) phones.

## 1990 ~ 1996 British Telecommunications plc

Satellite communications systems consultants  
**Job Title: Senior Satellite Systems Engineer**

I was the mobile satellite systems specialist in a small central team that handled new satellite communication services developments and procurement for the whole of BT. I managed development of most of the BT Aeronautical and Maritime and GSM Cellular product portfolio and the data communication expertise developed in my team also had applications on VSAT and trunk Intelsat links. Major projects included:

- 1995 Initiated the EU trial of ATM in VSAT multiple access.
- 1995 Developed the satellite part of the UMTS network architecture in ETSI and the EU Mobile Network project.
- 1994 Planning SDH carriage over Intelsat.
- 1993 Planning ISDN extension to BT Inmarsat and VSAT services.
- 1993 Secondment to KDDI R&D Laboratories' Mobile Communications Systems Group in Japan for a joint 6-month study of satellite networking options for 3G networks.
- 1992 Visiting BT's major transport sector clients' operations managers to explore their pressing communication needs.
- 1991 Managing a US\$2M project investigating satellite personal communications and its integration with terrestrial mobile networks. This was BT's primary means of assessing and exploiting the opportunities created by developments such as Iridium, Globalstar, ICO and Teledesic and contributing to ETSI and ITU 3G mobile standards.
- 1990 Finding ways to expand thin route capacity to and from small Intelsat countries.

1985 ~ 1990                      **Rolls-Royce Goodrich Engine Control Systems Ltd**  
Manufacturer of aircraft engine control systems  
**Job Title: Student Apprentice**

A 21-month IET-accredited "thick sandwich" programme working in a wide range of disciplines covering the whole product life cycle:

- 1989 Manufacturing Technology Task Force – a multi-disciplinary Board-level team created to build a new highly automated just-in-time manufacturing plant.
- 1988 Systems Group, software side – supporting the RB211 engine's fly-by-wire control unit during the Boeing 747-400's flight trials.
- 1987 Systems Group, electronics side – developed the RB211 engine control unit's fault detection hardware.
- 1986 Work Study, Quality Engineering and Production Control – various aspects of managing manufacture.
- 1985 Contracts Engineering and Product Support – the major points of contact with customers.

## Academic Qualifications

1991 ~ 1996                      **University of Surrey**  
*Guildford, Surrey GU2 5XH, UK*

**Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)** at the Centre for Satellite Engineering Research, in collaboration with BT. Awarded for my thesis on "Satellite Access in 3G Networks" based on some of the more future-thinking work of my full-time job for BT.

1986 ~ 1990                      **The University of Leeds**  
*Leeds LS2 9JT, UK*

**Master of Engineering (MEng)** in Electronic and Electrical Engineering, sponsored by Rolls-Royce Goodrich Aero Engine Controls. MEng is a four-year extension of the three-year BEng course adding team project work to foster management, communications and marketing skills. The MEng pass mark is equivalent to a first class BEng honours degree.

1978 ~ 1985

**King Edward VI Five Ways Grammar School**

*Scotland Lane, Bartley Green, Birmingham B32 4BT, UK*

1985 **GCE A-levels:** Physics (A); Mathematics (B); Chemistry (D); General Studies (A).  
School Prefect and Chief Computer Programmer.

1983 **GCE O-levels:** Mathematics (A); Physics (A); Chemistry (A); Biology (A); Geography (A);  
Woodwork (A); English (C); French (C).