

## Resume of Ian Blavins

### Principal developer, performance engineering infrastructure and software performance engineer

**Currently:** developing a cloud-capable, performance-testing-process-aware, API-client based performance testing tool in general ([apiloader.com](http://apiloader.com)) and mobile-application-focused ([apiloader.com/lomapps.htm](http://apiloader.com/lomapps.htm)) variants

**Previous roles:** lead performance engineer, performance tools developer, performance engineering consultant, technical project manager, database consultant ...

#### Resume highlights:

- currently developing APILoader ([apiloader.com](http://apiloader.com)) a cloud-capable, 2m trans per second, API-client focused performance testing tool that is performance testing process aware
- currently also developing LoMAppS ([apiloader.com/lomapps.htm](http://apiloader.com/lomapps.htm)), an ‘experience’ over APILoader intended for simple testing of mobile applications
- developed extensive, and often innovative, performance testing infrastructure around both proprietary and open source performance testing tools to automate them, supplement their capabilities, or extend their applicability
- 15+ years experience in performance engineering in Australia, the U.S., and U.K.
- managed multiple concurrent projects to externally audited ISO 9001 standards
- established, trained, mentored, and managed performance teams
- worked on complex, large-scale, multi-platform, multi-tier applications in a dozen different domains
- implemented performance engineering capability from scratch four times and labs from scratch twice
- performed professional services engagements for two performance tool vendors
- spent ten years as an independent database consultant
- presented papers at technical conferences on three continents
- hold B.Sc. (Hons) in computing science with 2 years postgraduate research

Status: Available  
Current location: Irrelevant; if you have the right project and it can't be done remotely I will come to you; relocation expenses are not sought  
Lead-time: I reckon to match the lead-time of a local inter-city candidate  
Right to work: Dual Australian / UK citizen; able to work in US without sponsorship via Free Trade Agreement E3 visa  
E-mail: [ian@quango.com.au](mailto:ian@quango.com.au)  
Phone: (0408) 848 548 (Australia), +61 (408) 848 548 (International)  
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## Operating Environments

I have worked in a wide range of complex, large-scale, multi-tier, and high-availability environments ranging from Windows – Unix – mainframe to all-Windows and all-Unix; among these I have encountered all the major DBMSs and a range of common and uncommon software platforms including J(2)EE, .Net, etc.

### Platforms

Amazon Web Services	5 years
Unix	15 years +
Windows	8 years +
IBM mainframe	14 years +

**Experience** **Quango Computing**, Goulburn, Australia 8 years, 2012-present  
Principal software developer, cloud-capable performance testing tool

I am currently the principal, and sole, developer producing a cloud-capable, high throughput, API-client focused, performance testing tool based on JMeter. See [www.apiloader.com](http://www.apiloader.com). The tool includes an RMI-based Java client that is performance testing process aware, an innovative and very slick method of developing API testing use cases, a JEE server, and a distributed cloud-based backend. The tool supports public and private cloud providers. Currently proven high water mark is 2m API calls per second, sustained for one hour, with queries against the resulting multi-billion data points resolved in under 5 seconds. The key component has been tested at 440m trans per second. The work has R&D status from the Australian government.

**Verizon / ANZ Bank**, Canberra, Australia 3 months, 2011  
Performance tools development and performance engineering, e-authentication

This was the second most complex performance engineering project I have ever done. It required over 12,000 lines of new Java code to interface JMeter to a hosted UniCERT PKI solution using two programmatic interfaces to test against some unusual ANZ requirements, including asynchronicity. It required a certificate status tracking application to be built within the performance testing tool. The whole project was done remotely with only two days on site.

**VANguard**, Canberra, Australia 9 months, 2009-10  
Performance tools development and performance engineering, e-authentication

At Dept of Innovation, Industry, Science, and Research I assisted in the preparation of the VANguard whole of government e-authentication system for a successful national go-live with the Australian Tax Office. I established the performance testing process, developed custom tools to support it, and applied the process to several rounds of performance base lining. My involvement catalysed a 6-fold improvement in VANguard throughput. As a by-product I gained considerable experience with PKI.

**Temenos**, Hemel Hempstead, UK

27 months, 2007-9

Performance tools development and performance engineering, core banking

At Temenos, a leading banking software developer, I implemented a benchmarking capability for their TCB core banking system. This was a green fields role which involved: selecting an open source benchmarking tool (Apache JMeter); wrapping the tool with extensive custom Java infrastructure; creating the ability to build production size performance testing databases from scratch; undertaking performance related projects for customers; and training the new team. The database build capability was proven to 500M DB2 rows and the benchmarking capability to 5,000 requests per second with more or less arbitrary scalability.

**Compuware**, Canberra ACT, Australia

18 months, 2005-6

Software performance consultant, performance tool vendor

I spent eighteen months as a software performance consultant with Compuware, one of the top tier performance testing software vendors. I scoped and planned engagements and then represented Compuware on customer sites. I delivered performance testing engagements with a variety of customers in different domains such as secure networks (CITEC in Brisbane), health (Dinmar/NSW Health in Sydney), science and research (CSIRO's new web site in Canberra), and web based financial services (Australian Central Credit Union in Adelaide). I also undertook large scale Java development to make a load simulator for a Melbourne client who prefers not to be named.

**Medibank Private**, Melbourne Vic, Australia

3 months, 2005

Performance analyst, SAP medical insurance

I assisted Medibank Private, Australia's largest medical insurer, with implementation of the first phase of their Business Systems Renewal project. The focus was on large-scale SAP based applications in a multi-platform environment. My role was to test the applications against Medibank's performance requirements. I added extra value by helping the SAP team to repackage the multi-day initial master data load for improved performance.

**Centrelink**, Canberra ACT, Australia

18 months, 2003-4

Performance expert, welfare system development

At Centrelink, Australia's federal welfare organisation and fourth largest IT organisation, I assisted with the performance of their web based service delivery systems. My major contributions were to bring the performance testing services to industry standard, while extending their applicability to applications of greater scale and complexity. I automated key aspects of the performance engineering process. I inaugurated a performance improvement service and successfully applied it to a major web application better than doubling its throughput. I helped Centrelink to shape its future performance engineering service by providing a five-year vision and supporting business requirements for input to Centrelink's I.T. Refresh project. I also assessed some of the current Compuware tools against the more critical requirements.

**S1**, Atlanta GA, USA

14 months, 2001-2

[Senior performance engineer / trouble shooter, online banking](#)

I was a senior performance engineer with S1 Corporation, maker of internet banking, wealth management, and insurance software. My role included in house and on site performance trouble shooting for S1's international customer base; internal and external performance consulting; performance infrastructure and methodology development; participation in major C++ performance improvement projects; and pre-release performance proving. The role was discharged in secure, multi-tier Unix and OS/390 environments using Forte and Informix or DB2.

Performance infrastructure I developed included that for integration, analysis, and presentation of multiple performance metrics; assessment of SLA compliance; and comprehensive SQL performance analysis. I also developed a performance team web site to provide convenient access to tools, procedures, documentation, baselines, and results.

**Macromedia**, San Francisco CA, USA

12 months, 2000

[Lead performance engineer, web tracking](#)

As Macromedia's inaugural server side performance engineer, I set up the eBusiness Solutions Division's performance engineering function from scratch -defining the services, setting up the lab, and building infrastructure. Over time I undertook the full spectrum of performance engineering services from architecture and design review through component based performance development to capacity modelling.

The services were most recently provided to a team developing a hosted web tracking service. My responsibility covered the performance of the Java script and C++ web usage monitor, a high throughput Java message processor, an Oracle database server, and a Java report generator, all on Solaris.

Prior to this I was the performance engineer on a data web house development project. This involved C++ capture, message processing, and web house loader components plus an Oracle data web house. My responsibilities included all phases of the work from design review to product tuning and included a successful project to identify and remove the major system bottlenecks.

Simultaneously I was responsible for performance and capacity modelling of Macromedia's existing Aria web tracking product. I was the performance information resource for consultants, customers, and support personnel alike. Performance improvements I guided resulted in an extension of Aria's life in the market. Aria uses C++ capture modules and an object relational database

**SAIC**, Walnut Ck. CA, USA

6 months, 1999

[Performance engineering team lead, medical insurance development](#)

I was the performance engineering team lead on a \$100M development project undertaken by SAIC for 60,000 Kaiser Permanente health care providers. This

complex n-tier system involved C++ clients connected by CORBA/Orbix and MQ Series middleware with C++ application servers and Oracle databases. I was responsible for: performance project definition; team recruitment, training and mentoring; performance tool selection; performance lab specification; standards and procedures promulgation; and workload modelling. I also undertook detailed technical work on MQ Series performance.

**Rational Software**, Sydney, Australia

2 weeks, 1999

Performance specialist, performance tool vendor

In a short, hands-on, subcontract to Rational software I helped Westpac Bank conduct a successful stress test of their web-based Credit Reporting System.

**Mincom**, Brisbane, Australia

42 months, 1995-1999

Performance specialist and technical project manager, ERP development

I spent three and half years at Mincom, a major ERP/EAM vendor, as the inaugural performance engineer. I acquired the performance software, equipped a performance lab, trained and led an eight-person team, created the methodology, and developed performance infrastructure. At times I managed five projects simultaneously all to externally audited ISO 9001 standards.

The work included performance and scalability assurance of the developing MIMS ERP/EAM system as well as performance investigations and testing of new technology initiatives, components, and platforms. The work covered Delphi and 3270 clients running through Tuxedo and Mincom's proprietary TP against Oracle, DB2, Sybase, and Informix databases on OS/390, NT, and Unix. The underlying hardware, operating system, network, and DBMS were tuned and instrumentation was developed as necessary.

I planned and led large benchmarks at the HP labs in Cupertino, California, and at the Digital manufacturing plant in Ayr, Scotland. The latter used a five-machine enterprise configuration to support 3,000 concurrent users and 100 transactions per second. My team won a Mincom merit award for this work.

**Deloitte & Touche**, Las Vegas NV, USA

21 months, 1993-1994

Database designer / administrator, performance specialist, welfare development

I spent twenty-one months with Deloitte & Touche in Las Vegas on a development project to mechanise the bulk of the operational business of a regional welfare provider.

While formally database designer and administrator my responsibilities included application performance. This required ground breaking methodology and tool development for SQL performance and query plan analysis.

**Earlier years**, Adelaide, Australia

Database consultant, technical specialist, software RandD, etc.