

# Bernd Wechner – Technical Writer

6 Montagu Street, Hobart 7000, Australia

bernd@wechner.info

0427-651112 (SMS prior to call)

## Skills

Math and Physics, Software Engineering, Programming, Networking and network management, Project management, Team management, Technical writing, Training course design and delivery, Quality assurance, Process automation, Language and cultural awareness.

## Professional Summary

### Technical Writer

I have co-authored a few papers, written extensive technical documentation for and the English help systems for the payphone management systems REMAS III, and for the Hydroacoustic data processing software Echoview and managed delivery of same for the Data fusion software system Eonfusion. I have written extensive internal documentation on algorithms have also written extensive material in support of training courses, and published research on Suite 101 and publish on dev.to today, and may start up on substack some time. My preferred tools for mathematical documentation are LaTeX in the LibreWriter at present.

### Full Stack Developer

With a masters degree in Information Technology and Telecommunications, I manage a LAN, with servers, and develop websites for personal and community use. Strengths include all levels from bare metal up to the UI (though I favour good designers for UI work support). My favoured stack at present includes: Ubuntu, Lighttpd, uWSGI, memcached, PostgreSQL, Django and naked JS client side with modest jQuery support. I have worked with Redhat, MS-Server, Apache, IIS, ASP, C# .NET, PHP and can bring into service any framework on demand of course, not least any of the front-end frameworks be that React, Angular, Vue, Svelte ... they all require modest familiarisation effort.

### Automation Engineer

I am a great champion of automation where it is possible. I cut my teeth on supervisory automation systems for cold rolling steel mills (FORTRAN on MicroVax VMS) and more recently was automating software testing for Echoview (Hydroacoustic data processing software with strong stability) including UI automation. I actively automate server management tasks dominantly in bash and Python. I have consistently resisted the false economy of not automating. With very few exceptions such resistance has been predicated on the false premise of no repetition foreseen. **My mantra:** When should you automate? When you can. You will not regret it.

### Quality Assurance Manager

I started formal testing on payphone systems, have professionally tested Tasmanian Government websites in development, supported development of a regression testing automation system, managed a quality assurance team across three corporate divisions (stable software releases, venture software development and hardware measurement systems), implemented testing in Python and with Django and with pywinauto and Selenium (browser testing). I champion quality both hands on and at a policy and organisation level.

### Software Trainer

I developed and delivered training courses for payphone management systems in English, German and French, and subsequently for hydroacoustic data processing software (Echoview). I have delivered training courses across the world and online and presented at numerous conferences and trade shows.

### Mathematical Modeller

An A-grade math student, with the school Physics prize, and a degree in Mechanical Engineering, I modelled the cold steel deformation process (a system of simultaneous non-linear differential equations) using polynomial approximations in a time before desktop PCs (pencil and paper and micro-computers implementing said model in FORTRAN - it is quite likely still in service at the cold rolling mill at BHP in Port Kembla). I have studied Microsoft's TrueSkill Rating system (a Bayesian algorithm and generalisation of the ELO Chess ranking system) extensively and have been documenting it openly. I headed-up the validation of wideband signal processing algorithms at Echoview.

## Career

|             |                                                                              |
|-------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2019 — 2024 | Quality Assurance Engineer, Echoview Software Pty. Ltd.                      |
| 2015 — 2019 | Global Partner Manager, Echoview Software Pty. Ltd.                          |
| 2015 —      | Full Stack Developer, Self-driven side gig                                   |
| 2011 — 2015 | Global Sales and Marketing Manager, Echoview Software Pty. Ltd.              |
| 2010 — 2011 | Sales Support (Infrastructure and Asia/Pacific), Echoview Software Pty. Ltd. |
| 2006 — 2010 | Project Manager, Myriax Software Pty. Ltd.                                   |
| 2003 — 2010 | Manager of Support, Quality Assurance and Documentation, SonarData Pty. Ltd. |
| 2002 — 2003 | Manager, User Support and Training, SonarData Pty. Ltd.                      |
| 2002        | Test Engineer, Dytech Solutions Pty. Ltd.                                    |
| 2000 — 2002 | Software Engineer Larrisun Pty. Ltd.                                         |
| 1998 — 2000 | Customer Support Engineer, Landis and Gyr Communications                     |
| 2000 — 2001 | Traveller Australia                                                          |
| 1997 — 2010 | Company Director, Larrisun Pty. Ltd.                                         |
| 1997        | Technical Consultant, BHP Research                                           |
| 1995 — 1996 | Telecommunications Engineer, Swiss Telecom PTT                               |
| 1995 — 2003 | Contributing Editor, Suite101.com                                            |
| 1993 — 1995 | Traveller Asia and Europe                                                    |
| 1992 — 1993 | Research Engineer/Liaison Officer, BHP Sheet and Coil Products Division      |
| 1991 — 1992 | Traveller Europe                                                             |
| 1986 — 1991 | Research Engineer, BHP Sheet and Coil Products Division                      |
| 1983 — 1986 | Mechanical Engineering Trainee, BHP Coated Products Division                 |
| 1979 — 1980 | Newspaper delivery, Northwest Star                                           |

## Experience

### Ongoing

**Full stack developer**, Self-driven side gig 2015-

I found Microsoft's TrueSkill algorithm implemented in Python and the Django web framework so whipped up a quick website to manage learderboards for our local games group. I analysed the mathematical backdrop and commenced documenting it for users.

### The SonarData/Myriax/Echoview years

**Manager of Support, Quality Assurance and Documentation**, SonarData Pty. Ltd. 2003-2011

Managing the Support, Quality Assurance and Documentation (SQuAD) needs across three corporate divisions (Echoview, AQ1 and Eonfusion) with a team of up to 10 members.

**Manager, User Support and Training**, SonarData Pty. Ltd. 2002-2003

Tasked with the design and delivery of a three day training course in basic hydroacoustics and Echoview software, with 12 weeks lead time. Managed customer support and **worked on the Echoview 3 help system** in parallel to garner the skills needed. After a very successful and well received course delivered in Seattle and Anchorage, continued managing the ongoing user support, training and documentation needs, delivering this training course as needed.

### The Telecommunications years

**Customer Support Engineer**, Landis and Gyr Communications 1998-2000

Technical and administrative support of customers for telecommunications software systems, including

- **product documentation (developing and maintaining user and installation guides).**
- product packaging and delivery (personalised for large corporate clients),
- customer training (designed and delivered 2 to 4 day courses to 2 to 20 engineers at a time),

## On the Move

**Contributing Editor**, Suite101.com 1995-2003

Contributed a monthly article to the travel section of this magazine-style web directory. Appointed by invitation.

## The Steel Years

**Technical Consultant**, BHP Research 1997.

**Research Engineer**, BHP Sheet and Coil Products Division 1986-1993.

Among other things extensively documented the mathematical backdrop of steel deformation during cold rolling. I established a mantra in the day of documentation ahead of implementation (of code).

## Selected Publications

A modest body of developer oriented essays at <https://dev.to>.

Extensive publication of end user documentation including Echoview help, Eonfusion Help and AQ1 documentation.

An entire series of 82 research essays published at Suite 101 in the 1990s.

Many internal and confidential research reports have been published as well as design documentation, user guides, course material and travel articles (on-line and in zines) as well Wikipedia contributions (many more anonymously than credited).

The following co-authored papers:

W.Y.D. Yuen, A. Duval and B. Wechner, *A New Formulation for the Analysis of Strip Flatness in Strip Rolling*, 7th International Conference on Steel Rolling, 1998.

W.Y.D. Yuen and B. Wechner, *A Physical Model for On-Line Roll Bending Set Up in Cold Rolling*, 5th International Steel Rolling Conference, 1990.

## Education

**Master of Engineering (IT&T)**, Flinders University of South Australia 1995-96

**Bachelor of Engineering (Mechanical)**, Honours class II, University of Wollongong 1983-86

**Higher School Certificate**, Physics prize, Engadine High School 1981-82

**Junior School Certificate**, German prize, Mount Isa State High School 1978-80

## Personal Details

**Date of Birth:** November 12, 1965

**Place of Birth:** Kempten, Bavaria, Germany.

**Nationality:** Australian, Swiss

**Marital Status:** Married (de facto) with three children (2003, 2013, 2017)

## Context of This Document

This is a 3 sheet resumé, being a very targeted extract of key points relating to the role of Technical Writer.

It consists of extracts from a full Curriculum Vitae of 7 sheets, which is available for drill down or further details, should this targeted rendition pique further interest.

The complete Curriculum Vitae as well as other targeted extracts are all available at:

<https://bernd.wechner.info/Professional>

The full body of professional experience is also up to date at:

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/bernd-wechner/>

and:

<https://www.seek.com.au/profile/bernd-wechner-MSlcnNZM1M>

respectively, the two most important professional employment related sites in use today in Australia.