Allen Holub

Consultant/CTO/Trainer/Programmer/Author/Speaker: Agile process and architecture, OO design, full-stack programming.

allen@holub.com

Summary

Building the wrong product on time and under budget doesn't get you much.

Agile/Lean practices help you eliminate that problem, but the transition to agile can be difficult. Process, design, architecture, and programming are tightly coupled. Moreover, true agile is a culture, not a process, so the whole organization needs to change to be really successful.

I am an expert at all of the "moving parts" needed to become agile:

* I'm a strong advocate of both Agile process (not just Scrum, but complete processes) and Lean-Startup business practices, I can quickly infuse an agile way of working into your organization though teaching, coaching at all levels, including the executives, and hands-on work with the teams.

* I'm a internationally recognized expert in Agile process and Object Oriented architecture. I have extensive experience as a startup executive, architect, educator, coach, and author. I excel at creating highly functional Agile teams who consistently deliver world-class software. Working both as a consultant and at the CTO/Principal-Architect level, I have demonstrated experience infusing Agile practice into existing organizations.

* I teach in-house classes at both major corporations startups (see http://www.holub.com).

* I'm a guru-level programmer (Java, C#, Python, Ruby (RoR), Grails, PHP, JavaScript, SQL, GWT, JQuery...) on multiple platforms, both web (SaaS and UI-focused web applications) and native. I regularly take on programming projects to stay fresh.

* My writing has been instrumental in promoting Agile, Java, C++, and C, C++. I've published a dozen books, 200+ magazine/web articles in Dr. Dobb's Journal, JavaWorld, SD Times, and elsewhere. I speak regularly at industry conferences (JavaOne, JAX, Software-Architect-London, SDD, etc), and

CONTACT ME: allen@holub.com   http://www.holub.com

I'm available for training work, consulting projects, or even a job with the right company.

Experience

Advisory Board Member at Ascenium Corporation, Ontometrics Corp.

2000 - Present (14 years)

Provide technical and strategic advice, participate in occasional board meetings, provide a sounding board for the principals.

Speaker at Software Architect (London), DevWeek (London), SSD (London), JavaOne, SD Expo, others

January 1990 - Present (24 years 4 months)

A regular presenter at many conferences. I now speak primarily on Agile-process and software-architecture topics such as design patterns and optimizing architecture for Agile development (Recent talks at: http://www.software-architect.co.uk/, http://www.devweek.com/, http://sddconf.com/)

2 recommendations available upon request

Technical and Contributing Editor at JavaWorld, Dr. Dobb's Journal, SD Times, others.

1984 - Present (30 years)

Write regular monthly columns and blogs. Topics (depending on the publication) included Java, object-oriented design, software-industry analysis. My writing is characterized by above-average technical depth and a willingness to critique common wisdom when alternative approaches are available. My "C Chest" column (in Dr. Dobb's Journal during the mid-to-late '80s) was instrumental in introducing the C programming language to the programming community.

Also review submissions and made publication decisions. High-level content edits.

2 recommendations available upon request

Principal at Holub Associates

January 1983 - Present (31 years 4 months)

REPRESENTATIVE PROJECTS

-- Hired-gun CTO, Principle Architect, Agile Process Infusion.

Infuse Agile process into non-agile (and dysfunctional agile) organizations and guide successful adoption. Improve software-development culture. Participate in strategic decision making. Design and develop large systems, both front and back end (primarily web application and SaaS). Provide training on Agile process and architecture, OO structure, design patterns, threading, etc.

Working with end users, gather requirements and develop APIs and architectural-level design for system that satisfies user needs. Provide structural designs for highly-robust systems that optimize throughput (hits per minute), etc. (Pearl.com/Justanswer.com, CoValuate/SmartCorridors, etc)

-- Programming

Guru-level Java/C++ programmer, both back end and web. Projects range from robotic systems, compilers (both proprietary languages and C implementations for nonstandard hardware), real-time operating systems (both at the kernel and I/O levels) to web applications (JavaScript/JQuery/GWT/PhP/Ruby) and

enterprise-scale server back ends (REST, SaaS, web back ends). Considerable experience with server-side infrastructure (JMS/messaging, MySQL, MongoDB, BerkleyDB, Cassandra, Redis, etc.)

-- Training

Full-team training in full-agile process (not just Scrum, which is an agile subset). Consulting with senior staff (CTO, VPE, Senior Engineers) in Agile methodology. Trained engineers in object-oriented design and development, object-oriented architecture, with a focus on agile environments, and langages (C++/Java). Put together small design teams that take a real problem from requirements gathering through to a implementation-level design. Covers life-cycle, process (XP and RUP), use cases, static and dynamic modeling using UML. (NetApp, OO Workshop, public classes and various conferences).
33 recommendations available upon request

Other Advisory Posts at   Various
1983 - Present (31 years)

   - Advisory Council, University of Calif. Extension, Computer Information Systems Dept.
   - Senior Editor, C/C++ User's Journal, Java Solutions
   - Contributing Editor, SD Times, JavaWorld, Programmer's Journal, Dr. Dobb's Journal
   - Technical reviewer, Kernighan and Ritchie, "The C Programming Language."
   - Technical reviewer, Spolsky, "User Interface Design for Programmers."
   1 recommendation available upon request

Principal Architect (Consulting). Agile Infusion and some CTO work. at   Pearl.com
February 2012 - December 2012 (11 months)

   Hired on a consulting basis as principle (that is, only) architect. Did that, but also spent considerable time doing hired-gun CTO work surrounding culture changes within the organization as a whole. Guided the design of financial subsystem APIs and "expert" (user) dashboard. Considerable Agile infusion work. Presented weekly "university" sessions on various technical design/development topics. Provided in-depth company-wide training on Agile process (not just Scrum, but agile practice as well). Provided hands-on guidance to several groups re. architecture and process. Implemented (using TDD) an API framework that provided a bare-bones implementation suitable to be taken over by the actual developers.

Server-side Programmer (Consulting) at   eCurrencyMint
August 2011 - March 2012 (8 months)

   Representative of one sort of programming project that I take on occasion to stay sharp. This was a back-end financial system, requiring rock-solid reliability, built in Java using BerkeleyDB and HornetQ (which I don't recommend). Heavy use of TDD, implemented under Mockito and PowerMock. Integration with Jenkins. Agile development environment.

CTO (hands on, web-application with SaaS back end). at   iExperiment.net
2009 - 2010 (1 year)

   Typical of an early-stage startup, a hands-on CTO job that involved programming, management, and strategic work building a highly interactive Web 2.0 application. Guided small distributed development team using

Agile processes. Working closely with scientist domain experts, determined user requirements, designed, guided implementation, and helped implement web-based electronic-notebook for biotech researchers, a highly interactive AJAX Web 2.0 application based on the Google Web Toolkit (GWT), JavaScript, Java Servlets, and MySQL. Made hiring decisions and interviewed candidates.

Track Chair / Speaker at   SD Expo ("Software Development" Conference)

1990 - 2009 (19 years)

Probably the most technically rigorous of the non-vendor-related technical conferences, spoke at the conference on diverse topics over the entire life of the conference, and served as the Security Track Chair from 2003-2009.

Instructor at   University of California Berkeley Extension

1983 - 2007 (24 years)

Taught some of the most technically rigorous classes offered by the Extension, in subjects ranging from Object-Oriented Design (and Design Patterns) to Java and C++. Consistently received highest student ratings in the department.

Contributing Editor at   JavaWorld

May 1999 - January 2004 (4 years 9 months)

Wrote a highly technical monthly column on Java programming, geared towards solving the problems of real programmers. Columns were always about nuts-and-bolts programming issues, and were written for advanced-level programmers.

CTO at   NetReliance

2000 - 2001 (1 year)

Responsible for product design, building a technical team, and for infusing a culture of engineering best practices throughout the organization. Designed physical and software architecture for a cross-jurisdictional certificate infrastructure for use in eBusiness. Mentored the marketing department in Use-Case analysis and OO requirements-gathering techniques using UML. Hired engineers.

Volunteer Experience

Member, Board of Directors at   Berkeley Hillside Club

April 2013 - Present (1 year 1 month)

The Hillside club is a social club located in Berkeley, CA. We're the steward of a 1910-vintage hall, present regular events for members, and rent the facility to the present.

Publications

Holub on Patterns: Learning Design Patterns by Looking at Code

Apress   2000

Authors: Allen Holub

Presents the "gang-of-four" design patterns in an unconventional way by deeply analyzing two realistic computer programs (an embedded SQL interpreter and a Game-of-Life implementation) which, between them, make use of all the patterns at least once.

Taming Java Threads

Apress   2000

Authors: Allen Holub

Written before the java.util.concurrent package existed, presents the complete source code for a comprehensive threading library for Java. One of Apress's all-time best sellers.

Enough Rope to Shoot Yourself in the Foot: Rules for C and C++ Programming.

McGraw-Hill   1995

Authors: Allen Holub

An extensive style guide for improving the quality of C/C++ programs.

C+C++: Programming With Objects in C and C++

1992

Authors: Allen Holub

One of the first books to present C++ expressly for existing C programmers.

Compiler Design in C

Prentice Hall   1990

Authors: Allen Holub

An exhaustive engineering approach to compiler design, presents complete theory along with the full source code for variants on the UNIX lex and yacc utilities and a complete C compiler. Introduced a "visible parser" that allowed students to actually watch a LALR(1) parser work as it processed a source-code file. Used as a text at MIT, IIT, CUNY, and Cal Tech (and as a secondary text at U.C. Berkeley).

The C Companion

Prentice Hall   1987

Authors: Allen Holub

Presented all the background material that you need to develop a deep understanding of C without presenting the language itself (e.g. Stack Frames, Binary Arithmetic, Boolean Algebra, etc.).

C Chest and other C treasures

M&T Books

Authors: Allen Holub

A compendium of many of the "C Chest" columns I had written for Dr. Dobb's Journal. Includes source code for grep and other unix utilities implemented for the MSDOS/Windows platform. These articles were among

the first ports of these utilities to non-UNIX platforms, and included a complete implementation of nroff, a pre-HTML markup-based layout engine.

On Command: Writing a UNIX-like Shell for MS-DOS
M&T Books

Authors: Allen Holub

The first implementation of a Unix shell that ran natively on Microsoft platforms.

Dr. Dobb's Toolbook of C
M&T Books

Authors: Allen Holub

Addition C-Chest columns along with other articles from Dr. Dobb's Journal.

Many (150 +/-) magazine-length programming articles
Various

Authors: Allen Holub

see http://www.holub.com/publications/articles/index.html for a more-or-less complete list.

Skills & Expertise

Agile Process and OO-Design training.
SaaS
Java
Software Development
Web application develeopment
C++
Object Oriented Design
UML
Agile Methodologies
Agile Modeling
Agile-Process Mentoring
Software Architecture
Training
Architecture
Software Engineering
Linux
Distributed Systems
C
Software Design
JavaScript
Mobile Applications
Cloud Computing
Java Enterprise Edition
REST
C#
MySQL

Web Applications
Test Driven Development
Python
OOP
AJAX
Design Patterns
jQuery
Ruby on Rails
Web Services
Ruby
SQL
PHP
Programming
Hibernate
User Experience

Education

University of California, Berkeley
AB, Computer Science and Medieval History, 1978 - 1981

Interests

Skilled pianist (see http://allenholub.com).

Private Pilot (Instrument rated, Commercial, ASEL).

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Linked in.

38 people have recommended Allen

"I've followed Allen's work in software design for many years. I felt privileged to get to know him personally at Software Architect and interact with him as a co-equal. His depth of insight and practical craftsmanship is unparalleled. I felt humbled in the presence of such intellect, yet gratified by Allen's openness and keenness to engage in all areas of mutual interest, from business to technical to hobby and the world in general. If you ever have the chance to engage Allen, I couldn't be more enthusiastic about recommending that you use that opportunity."

— **Howard Deiner***, Owner, Deinersoft, Inc.*, worked directly with Allen at Software Architect (London), DevWeek (London), JavaOne, SD Expo, others

"Allen has spoken at a number of technical conferences that I've organised, and he's done a great job every time - very professional, good ratings from attendees, and a nice guy too."

— **Nick Payne**, was Allen's client

"Allen has written myriad articles for Dr. Dobb's on topics ranging from cloud computing to object-oriented programming to testing. He's always in-depth and on-time and we look forward to many years of further collaboration. I heartily recommend him as an expert on software development."

— **Deirdre Blake**, was Allen's client

"Allen is a stellar software developer and excellent communicator. I've learned a lot from him over the years."

— **Espen Harlinn***, Senior Software Architect, harlinn.COM*, was with another company when working with Allen at JavaWorld, Dr. Dobb's Journal, SD Times, others.

"Allen is an excellent trainer and software engineer. He helped define the foundation for many of our software projects via his training sessions and consulting engagements."

— **Chris Lane**, was Allen's client

"I had the pleasure of working with Allen at Pearl.com, where he helped lead our team in adapting and learning agile methodologies while building products for our Professional community. He is a great

communicator and teacher, and cared deeply about the users for whom we were designing. He is very knowledge about software design and processes, and is a strong colleague."

— **George Gerard**, *Associate Product Manager, Pearl.com*, worked directly with Allen at Holub Associates

"Allen is consummate software professional. I engaged Allen on a contract to build a complex, high throughput transaction processing service. He very effectively worked with the rest of our team, mentored the team members and single-handedly implemented a rock-solid subsystem for us. His tremendous experience in architecting highly reliable software, his TDD approach, wise and careful selection of tools and frameworks for the job and just very careful and extremely well documented code contribute to the quality of the final outcome. Allen possesses a rare combination of advanced theoretical knowledge and hands-on, crank it out experience."

— **Thomas Kudrycki**, was Allen's client

"Allen is a respected and highly knowledgeable professional who regularly wrote quality articles for JavaWorld that helped developers understand and make better use of Java."

— **Michael O'Connell**, *Editor, International Data Group (IDG)*, was with another company when working with Allen at Holub Associates

"Allen and I have spoken at conferences (most notably SDWest), and I have always considered it a privilege to be considered in the same class as he--his insights into technology have always fallen into the category of "leading-edge", and things he's said end up becoming "widespread knowledge" within five years. Were I a company looking for somebody to help me navigate down the path of new technology, I can't imagine a better person to have as a guide than Allen."

— **Ted Neward**, *Principal, Neward & Associates*, worked directly with Allen at Holub Associates

"Allen came to our organization as a software design consultant/architect and agile coach. He has an outstanding grasp of OO design and design patterns. He communicates clearly and effectively. I learned a tremendous amount from him and I am a much better developer than I was before he visited. Allen was a pleasure to work with; he has a calm, inviting demeanor making it easy to work with him. I especially appreciated his common sense and honest approach to problems, both technically and organizationally. I was very sorry that Allen had to leave and I would gladly work with him again in an instant. I give Allen my highest recommendation."

— **Pete Gowdy**, *Sr. Software Engineer, Pearl.com*, worked indirectly for Allen at Holub Associates

"Allan is a brilliant architect, programmer and teacher of agile development and object oriented programming. He can lead a rapid development team or teach your team to do the job much better than it is now. His track record as a developer and as a writer and teacher is distinguished by the successes of his teams and his students."

— **Cliff Hersh**, *President, Move Resources LLC*, was with another company when working with Allen at

Holub Associates

"In 2000, when we determined to move all of Schwab's application development to a single platform, we realized we needed to engage a few thought leaders to help. Allen was one of those. He'd been teaching programming and programming best practices through UCB Extension - recommendation enough. But we found more: a partner willing to map out a learning strategy for our developers; and an educator who truly excelled at rapidly engaging our staff and moving us in our new direction. Later, when I started SVForum's Software Architecture and Modeling SIG, Allen was kind enough to share his insights and experience in design patterns, frameworks, MVC, non-MVC, AJAX and more in three talks over five years. Allen is superb at riding the leading edge of technical trends, embracing understanding and imparting technique and wisdom."

— **Ron Lichty**, was Allen's client

"Allen is passionate about object orientated design, about communicating design patterns and about grounding everything in Use Cases. His energy and commitment to training people on this was remarkable."

— **Bill Rivers**, *Principle Software Engineeer, Pearl.com*, worked directly with Allen at Holub Associates

"I became a fan of Allen's work through his book on Java Threads, back in 2002, and he has continued to inspire and motivated me over the years. Allen has been a wonderful resource (in person and through his work) and continues to be someone I reach out to for advice."

— **Felix Hovsepian, Ph.D.**, *CEO, Zemantix*, was with another company when working with Allen at Holub Associates

"Allen and I regularly give advice on the various Agile forums. Allen is one of a select few among those who give advice who I would consider a true peer, an equal. Sometimes we disagree, and I think we both find those occasions provide an opportunity to learn. In such matters, his advice is about as good as you will get."

— **Paul Oldfield**, *Process Engineer, Capgemini*, was with another company when working with Allen at Holub Associates

"Allen is a leader in the field of object-oriented architecture and design. His opinions are rooted in a rare understanding of how technical realities map into mental models, and this leads to solutions that are vastly higher quality than the cookie-cutter solutions one sees from too many consultants. I last worked with Allen on a project that combined new algorithms, new technologies, and new hardware. That is the type of challenge for which most consultants would produce an infinite sequence of "On the one hand...on the other hand..." discussions, but not Allen. He came up-to-speed very rapidly and was soon shuttling back and forth between whiteboard and keyboard, advocating for particular architectural and design decisions. One thing that I've come to appreciate more in recent years is Allen's integrity. One would like to think that honesty, work-ethic, and opinions rooted in real experience and not trend-chasing were the rule and not the exception, but I now know how rare such qualities are. I am confident that Allen would provide excellent value for any company wise enough to engage his services."

— **Larry O'Brien**, was Allen's client

"I've worked with Allen off and on over the course of many years. I know him to stand out from the crowd as a thorough professional with a deep knowledge of a range of programming languages and software design generally. He not only knows it, he communicates it effectively. Allen can explicate complicated ideas with remarkable clarity and without dumbing it down. He is understandably in demand as a writer, lecturer, and consultant, because he is good at all three."

— **Michael Swaine**, *Editor-in-chief/Associate Publisher, Dr. Dobb's Journal*, managed Allen at Holub Associates

"I had the pleasure attending Allen's UCB courses on Java and OO design, and more recently a custom, corporate training program that Allen delivered on how to enhance our adoption of Agile methodology. A smart customer can derive incredible value by tapping Allen's broad spectrum of expertise and deep insight into the organizational culture and technical architecture."

— **David Golden**, was Allen's client

"I learn something deep every time I talk to Allen or watch him present. Hire him to consult for you and let him work with your experienced grey-beards or your energetic new hires. Your company, your most important projects, and your people will be better for it."

— **Daniel Steinberg**, *Author, Podcaster, Trainer, Coder, Dim Sum Thinking*, worked directly with Allen at Holub Associates

"I saw Allen's packed presentations at Java One on Concurrency (among the best there) and contacted him about doing an audit of our codebase, which had a lot of threading. He tore through the source, made a list of issues, and we constructed an agenda. He presented to the developers, explained a lot of things, fielded questions. Great. Since then, I have had many occasions to discuss software with Allen (and to see him present at conferences) and have always found him to be one of the best people out there. He's a rare blend of highly abstract and deftly comfortable with details, however piddling. One minute you can be talking about the reason for design patterns like Bridge, and the next, comparing notes on how difficult or easy it is to configure Hibernate. His patterns book is great, btw."

— **Rob Williams**, was Allen's client

"Allen Holub is one of the best educators, consultants and thought leaders that I have had the pleasure to work with. He has a great ability to distill extremely complex and technical topics to understandable, digestable chunks. I'd be very excited to work and interact with Allen again."

— **Alex Wong**, was Allen's client

"I have respected Allen's work for years. He's been around the block more than a few times and clearly brings that practical experience to his writings and his talks."

— **Scott W. Ambler**, *Senior Contributing Editor, Dr. Dobb's Journal*, was with another company when working with Allen at Holub Associates

"Over the years, Allen has consistently given our company's software development team excellent advice about ways to go about our work. In each case that he served as an Expert Advisor to us, his advice stood out for its clarity and turned out to put us on exactly the right development path. This was true both when Allen advised us about specific structures within our software and when Allen helped us choose broad strategies of how to move forward. All that and a really pleasant guy!"

— **Andy Robin**, was Allen's client

"Allen has been a key technology advisor to Ascenium throughout our existence. When we began to design our compiler, many industry experts were of the opinion it couldn't be done. Allen's wisdom, creativity, and experience guided us towards a solid and successful architecture that we now reap the benefits of every day."

— **Robert Mykland**, was Allen's client

"Allen Holub has taught a generation (or more) of programmers how to program in C, C++, and how to best apply object oriented techniques. His projects in Dr. Dobb's Journal and other written venues are legendary and models of great coding by any measure you care to apply. What sets Allen apart from many other people that have similar technical backgrounds? Two things, at least. First, Allen isn't just a coder and designer. He's a writer. That ability to communicate his ideas makes his ideas more valuable. Second, while he became very well known for C programming, he didn't rest on his laurels and has stayed current with the latest technology. He's worked in and written about C, C++, Java, Patterns, AJAX, Web Services, and probably a half a dozen other things I've forgotten about. It is always an honor to write for magazines like Dr. Dobb's Journal. it is even more of an honor to write for them for 30 years! There's a reason publishers like Dr. Dobb's want to publish Allen's work. It's topical, its insightful, and readers enjoy learning from it. I might add, I was one of that generation that benefited from Allen's sharing of his knowledge. Thanks Allen!"

— **Al Williams**, *Contributing Editor, Dr. Dobb's Journal*, worked directly with Allen at Holub Associates

"I've know Allen for about 15 years now. Never worked directly with him, but have had many interesting conversations about softwar and have been an enthusiastic audience member at his talks (He's given, literally, dozens of great talks on all aspects of creating software, and the Bay Area is much richer as a result)."

— **William Grosso**, *Board Member, SDForum*, was with another company when working with Allen at Holub Associates

"I've attended two classes taught by Allen to learn about Java and OO design. Both were very informative and helped fill the gap in my understanding and practice of both. He challenges and engages his students. I would definitely hire him again."

— **Eddie Dickey**, was Allen's client

"I have had the pleasure of working with Allen and learning from him for more than a year at JustAnswer and PEARL.COM. During that time Engineering team was moving to an Agile process and a lot of process related questions arose daily. Allen showed himself as a true professional consistently suggesting "think outside the box" strategies that really worked. On top of that he is just a very pleasant individual to interact with. I also took his Agile workshop. Four days and total of more than 30 hours. If somebody can make it interesting, keep the group excited and share tons of useful techniques, practices and strategies that can be applied right away, that would be Allen Hollub."

— **Andrey Boreyko**, *QA, Pearl.com*, worked directly with Allen at Holub Associates

"Allen is a software development renaissance man, truly expert at a mind-boggling array of subjects. In the months that he contracted with our company, he employed several methods to seriously improve our capability. He worked with teams on complicated OO models, presented seminars (design patterns, agile development, requirements engineering), mentored key staff, reviewed models and code, and even produced a lot of code himself. And he did everything with a practical focus. He was also fearless in speaking truth to power and identifying the root causes of issues, whether they were technical, political, or just irredeemable employees. The real tribute to his contribution is that since his engagement, we talk about things differently. The conversation has changed--for the better."

— **Alan Freedman**, was Allen's client

"As a technical writer, Allen Hollub taught a whole generation of C programmers how to program C. Lately, he was able to teach OOP for another generation, and with solid principles. His courses and coaching are excellent."

— **Hilton Fernandes**, was Allen's client

"I was a student of Allen Holub's on more than one occasion as I sought to increase my skills and understanding of Object Oriented Programming in Java. I found both Allen's books and classroom approach to be effective and useful resources. He explained topics clearly, showed patience when there were challenges to understanding, and he demonstrated a deep and comprehensive command of the subject."

— **Robert Dunlop**, *Advanced Systems Engineer, Electronic Data Systems*, was with another company when working with Allen at Holub Associates

"I have never worked with Allen. However, I learned a fantastic amount of professional information from his writings with Dr Dobb's Journal, his book about writing a unix shell for DOS, his book about compiler design (truly a classic and much more useful than the dragon book). I truly learned OO from Allen with Object Oriented Programming using C/C++, really understood patterns with his book as it used real life examples... Allen KNOWS his stuff..."

— **Richard Tkatch**, *Senior Computer Scientist, CSC*, was with another company when working with Allen at Holub Associates

"I've known Allen for a long time, and worked with him on more than one occasion. He knows more about effective code design and managing complex projects than anyone I've ever met."

— **Bruce Poropat**, *Technical Writer/Editor, Various clients*, worked directly with Allen at Holub Associates

"Allen thinks clearly, and writes concisely. And I learned far more than I expected from his course on object-oriented design,"

— **Eric Armstrong**, was Allen's client

"I've known Allen since my days as a Tech Editor for Software Development magazine and can verify that he is a highly regarded software architect and programmer within the software development community. As an editor, I regarded Allen as a can-do, go-to person who was able to take ownership of writing projects from start to finish. I'm sure those traits are equally relevant for any programming projects on which he works."

— **Roger Smith**, *Technical Editor, Software Development Magazine*, worked with Allen at Holub Associates

"Allen is a most excellent combination of smart and articulate. He understands, deeply understands, a wide variety of technologies. Just read his books to understand how deeply he gets technology. But more importantly, Allen can communicate his deep understanding of technology both in writing and verbally. Just read his books. Or hire him to train (kinda like a try-before-you-buy). Or just bring him in to give constructive suggestions about how you can improve your systems. But once you get to know Allen, you will understand just how good he is and you'll want more of his time and more of his knowledge."

— **David Pollak**, *Founder & Distinguished Committer, Lift*, was with another company when working with Allen at Holub Associates

"I've hired Allen on several occassions to teach an on-site programming class. I've also taken his classes at UC Extension at Berkeley. He's a skilled teacher with an a prodigious intellect, including an almost encyclopedic knowledge of programming topics."

— **Joe Campbell**, was with another company when working with Allen at Holub Associates, Inc.

"Allen is one of the best software architects that I have met. I have attended a number of courses offered by Allen from the early days of C++ programming to design patterns to OO-Design and Programming. I also engaged Allen in teaching OOD design and programming to engineering teams in two relatively large capital equipment companies. It was well worth the investment in time and money. His in-depth knowledge and approaches to OO-Design process were insightful and encouraging to most software developers and the community. I highly recommend Allen."

— **James Yu**, was Allen's client

Contact Allen on LinkedIn