

## **Building Effective e-Portfolios**

Be wise - use resources Be a leader - set an example Be a visionary – find solutions Be prepared - do your research Be informed - act with intelligence Be open - welcome new ideas and ways Be giving - share knowledge, skills and ideas Be proud – showcase your accomplishments





### Presenter

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[ Home ] [ e-Profile ] [ e\_Résumé ] [ Achievements ] [ e-Portfolio ] [ Contact ] [ Site Map ]

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## **Mission Statement**

✓Will identify who you are, what you have done, and what career direction you have chosen.

This statement is a 'work in progress' and should be revisited several times a year.

✓This is an opportunity to identify your personal career goals in plain direct language.



## **Roger's Mission Statement**

✓To coach, encourage, motivate and promote candidates to assume responsibility for their career direction by offering the tools to scrutinize and identify their career goals and by supporting them through this process.



### What is an E-Portfolio

### **⊠An Electronic image of your:**



Accomplishment and Achievements



Contributions



Successes in progressive order



Expertise



Skills, Education and Credentials



**Career Highlights** 





# Why Use an E-Portfolio

Past performance is a good indicator of future performance...gives potential employers live examples of your accomplishments to date

#### ✓ Tangible examples of your skills and abilities:

- Draw attention to key information,
- Give better understanding of growth related to career path,
- Distinguishes you from others and builds self confidence,
- Enhance your ability to self-market,
- > Analysis of past projects and career performance,
- Identifies gaps through reflection,
- Showcases ongoing growth, accomplishments and results,
- Highlights superior technical and management skills,
- Demonstrates your excellent communication skills.





# The Value of an E-Portfolio

- A demonstration of skills and abilities through proven successful work history - Shows collection of documents, artifacts, & work examples
- ✓ Preparation for interviews can use as discussion guide
- ✓ As a career planning tool will showcase your career evolution and can be used as a self-promotional tool
- ✓ A display of your work ethic, interests, and personality
- ✓ Can be used in an interview or you can include the <u>link</u> as part of an employment application/résumé
- ✓ Can be easily updated throughout your career.
- Potential employers can review prior to your interview available on-line to potential employers 24/7



## How to Use of an E-Portfolio

- URL Include your e-Portfolio URL in your résumé, in your cover letter, and in your email signature
- ✓ Distribution Only send your URL to an employer with a reason for them to look at it you need to get them interested first before they will want to view it
- ✓ Interview In an interview, give teasers about what's in your e-Portfolio – if the interviewer agrees, take your laptop and demonstrate your e-Portfolio. Bring a hard copy of key pieces of the e-Portfolio to leave with the employer
- ✓ Demonstrate Directly reference projects that are relevant to the accountabilities of the position
- Customize Tailor your e-Portfolio to your ideal organization &/or this specific opportunity





#### Identify Talents, Skills & Competencies

- Begin with your previous job descriptions and highlight your key talents, skills, competencies and knowledge
- Develop your list of the talents, key skills, competencies and knowledge
- Think of examples of when and where you successfully used these skills
- Identify the benefits to the employees, management &/or organization of using these your key talents, skills, competencies and knowledge





### Using E-Portfolio at Interview

# ✓ Using your portfolio is like show and tell:

- However, there is a right time and a wrong time to present your portfolio or its contents to an interviewer
- Don't hand over your portfolio at the beginning of the interview:
  - the interviewer will be tempted to look through it while talking to you and may not give you his or her full attention
  - or the interviewer will listen to you and miss out on the great examples that you have included.





### Using E-Portfolio at Interview

#### ☑ Don't save your portfolio until the end of the interview

- The employer may have a very limited amount of time to spend with each job candidate, so he or she may not have time to skim through your portfolio before the next interview.
- Your portfolio will go in at briefcase to be examined later (if at all), at which time your work will not make a good connection to your interview.



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# Using Samples in Interview

#### ☑ The interviewer will ask you a question:

- Take a moment to think about your answer
  - pinpoint in your e-Portfolio an item that relates specifically to your answer.
- > Answer the question.
  - Then say, I have an example in my e-Portfolio.
- With the permission of the interviewer, show your sample.
- Give the interviewer time to review the document.
  - You can ask if there is anything they would like elaborated. Wait for them to look at you to continue talking.







### Organize/Design Your Portfolio

#### ✓ Organize/Design your e-Portfolio

- > By experiences?
- By skill set?
- Reverse chronologically?
- Cross referenced?
- Include a site map so:
  - reviewers can navigate easily and
  - easily locate key information of interest

#### **Depend if you are:**

- targeting a specific job or industry or
- other job search factors



# **Organization Suggestions**

#### ☑ Educational

Copies of degrees, diplomas, certificates and relevant learning experiences

#### ☑ Skills & Competencies

Demonstrations of skills and knowledge (management, research, conflict resolution, instructional) or whatever is most relevant to your targeted function or organization

#### **Work Experiences**

- Examples of projects, positive evaluation, accomplishments, letters
- Recommendations from supervisors or project group members
- Special projects where you were the Team Leader or Discussion Leader
- Documents, Presentations, PowerPoint and other electronic Presentations

#### Extracurricular Projects and Related Accomplishments

Flyers, programs, awards, letters of appreciation, certificates, volunteer work

#### ☑ Relevant Hobbies and Personal Interests

- Awards, certificates, photos, travels
- Blog and/or work website



## Things You Need to Do

**Be Equipped** Bring: business cards, hard/electronic copy of portfolio and key materials, current résumé.

#### **Be Proactive**

Cross check materials in your portfolio to your résumé. Are all your skill sets identified and represented to maximum?

Be Current Re-evaluate and update your portfolio for each job interview.

Be Organized Organize your résumé, samples and business cards.

#### Be Prepared

Practice presenting your portfolio before the actual interview.

#### Be Knowledgeable

Edit, add or subtract materials based on the portfolio's specific purpose.

#### **Be Proud**

Choose a wide variety of materials to demonstrate the full scope of your abilities.

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# e-Portfolio Tips

- Limit your samples, do not include everything you have ever created
- ✓ Place your best and most important projects/documents at the top of each page in each category
- Keep the page layout clean and simple, allowing for your work to do the talking
- ✓ To make it easy for people to find you, be sure to include your contact information on your site in a searchable text format
- ✓ Use your own domain name
- ✓ If you've developed websites for clients, don't just list the <u>URL</u>s your e-Portfolio, include images of those projects with captions





# **E-Portfolio** Tips

- ✓ Keep your e-Portfolio up to date: check links to make sure they are still working and available for viewing
- ✓ When developing your online e-Portfolio, be aware of long download times for flash and animated features and think over whether these will apply in your job
- ✓ Restrict the main points to one page
- ✓ Goal is to keep prospective employers &/or search firms reading your e-Portfolio so they know the full scope of your talents
- ✓ You may want to make CD or Memory Sticks copies of your e-Portfolio to leave with the employer during the final interview.
- Include staff count in the résumé section beside the company name.
- ✓ Identify if the company is union or non-union, the name of the industry and if the company is International.



# e-Portfolio Tips

Assess each example: projects, documents and presentations in your e-Portfolio and ask these questions:

- Why is this document included and what script/explanation must be developed to explain?
- When was this document developed and why?
- What benefit did this document bring to the profit, the team &/or the organization?
- Did you create the document or were you a contributing team member to the project? Acknowledge the Team Members.
- > Who is the intended audience for the specific document?
- How was the document developed and what software/hardware was used?
- Identify presentations you made: corporate announcements, board/group meetings, training sessions, reports, etc.



## **Table of Constance**

- ✓ Title Page ~ Opening statement
  - ~ Who are you?
- Mission, Values, and personal Career Goal/s statement
- ✓ Skills, talents, competencies, abilities and knowledge
- Education, Key Learning, and Training
- Achievements, Key accomplishments, Corporate Recognitions and Awards
- Hobbies, interests and personal non-corporate skills
- ✓ List of important professional associations, and business affiliations of which you are member
- Résumé

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### Reminder

Change is inevitable!



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# Growth is optional!

- Remember the story about the person with 15 years experience which was just really one year experience fifteen times.
- Find ways to grow your skills, competencies, & knowledge every year ....and regularly document this growth in your e-Portfolio...!





## Thank You

- ✓ Thanks for your attention
- ✓ Thanks for your time and sharing your experiences.
- ✓ Thanks for your feedback and recommendations!

Please view my e-Portfolio at <u>http://www.rogerguybaguley.ca</u>



✓ Please stay in touch through LinkedIn or email.

