

# Tom Alison

## Co-founder & CTO, Zenbe Inc.

Oct 2006 — Present · [www.zenbe.com](http://www.zenbe.com)

Manage engineering and product development at Zenbe. Responsible for fostering a culture characterized by rapid innovation and exceptionally designed products.

Determine the high-level technology strategy to meet the needs of the product vision, and work closely with the team to develop and refine product and engineering specifications. Lead code and design reviews, and approve core technology decisions. Perform hands-on software development and debugging where needed.

Involved in all aspects of Zenbe's products and team, including customer communications, customer support, identifying new technologies, employee development, and growing the team.

## Senior Developer, Two Sigma Investments, LLC

Jan 2006 — Sep 2006 · [www.twosigma.com](http://www.twosigma.com)

Incorporated new sources of market data into Two Sigma's custom high frequency trade execution system for use as new signals for order placement strategies. Developed reporting capabilities for the new data in the measurement and analysis platform.

Worked with quantitative analyst to develop a new order placement strategy for the FX markets.

## Senior Developer, Pragma Financial Systems

Jul 2005 — Jan 2006 · [www.pragmatrading.com](http://www.pragmatrading.com)

Implemented adaptive trade execution algorithms in Java for Pragma TradeEngine®, an algorithmic trading platform used by major hedge funds and sell side broker-dealers.

Designed and tested new trading algorithms, trade impact models, and limit order placement strategies with the Director of Research using R and Java.

## Senior Systems Developer, Ameritrade

Sep 2002 — Jul 2005 · [www.tdameritrade.com](http://www.tdameritrade.com)

Led the technical effort to reduce Ameritrade's market data licensing fees by millions of dollars by creating APIs to Datek's real-time, direct-feed market data ticker plant that

### Contact

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### Expertise

Technical Leadership  
Concurrency  
Distributed Systems  
Network Programming  
System Monitoring  
User Experience

### Languages

Java  
Ruby  
Python  
Javascript  
HTML, CSS, Ajax  
Bash  
R

### Frameworks

Apache Mina  
Rails, Sinatra, Rack  
Prototype  
Hibernate

### Software & Platforms

MySQL  
Solr, Lucene  
Memcached  
Postfix  
SpamAssassin  
Tibco  
Nagios, Munin  
Git, SVN  
Photoshop  
Linux  
Amazon Web Services

### Protocols & APIs

TCP/IP, UDP, Multicast, HTTP  
Email Protocols  
Direct Exchange Feeds  
Wombat  
GData  
Facebook  
Twitter

mimicked TAQ. The APIs were used by all of Ameritrade's mission critical applications including the retail trading site, order routing system, customer alerts, and IVR.

Developed a common application framework for market data handling and publishing services, including introduction of JDK5 concurrency primitives, pluggable event-driven I/O libraries, consistent JMX management interfaces and a standardized state-replication protocol for redundancy and fail-over.

Increased peak message handling capacity from forty thousand to ninety thousand messages-per-second via garbage collection optimizations and algorithm improvements. Participated in stress tests with SIAC to ensure system resilience under peak projected data volumes for the options markets.

## **Lead Web Developer, Datek Online**

**Sep 1999 — Aug 2002**

Designed and developed a set of web-based interfaces for highly active traders that featured self-updating account balances, keyboard driven order management, and a natural language equity order parser.

Conceived and implemented "Datek Direct" in response to the need to give customers more control over order routing. Wrote a Java-to-Javascript bridge to enable one-click order entry and routing capabilities from an embedded real-time market data applet. Praised by TheStreet.com as "elegantly simple."

Designed and implemented the user interfaces for Datek's first options trading product.

## **Web Developer, Hewson Group**

**Sep 1997 — Sep 1999**

Worked closely with graphic designers to code pixel-perfect brand identity and recruiting sites for several of the largest law firms in New York.

## **Education**

*New York University*

Bachelor of Arts, Philosophy, 1999