

## **Position Available: Information Architect/User Experience Designer, TOPS (6 Month Contract)**

The TOPS division at Torstar Digital is looking for an Information Architect/User Experience Designer. The TOPS platform is an Enterprise Web Content Management Systems (CMS), powering a portfolio of world-class websites from Star Media Group, Metroland Media and Rogers Digital Media including: thestar.com, toronto.com, wheels.ca, Citytv.com, Flare.com, 680news.com, MetroNews.ca to name a few.

### **THE JOB IN A NUTSHELL:**

**The Information Architect/User Experience Designer** will work closely with the TOPS Product Development Teams to improve the user-experience, workflow, design standards and information architecture of the CMS currently used by editors primarily to publish content to digital properties. This individual would be the key consultant in the re-design for the CMS for both existing and new features. This role would involve assimilating all of the diverse requirements and expectations of end users, product managers, and technical architects into a detailed visual plan; allowing the development process to proceed efficiently and with a minimum of divergence from the project objectives, while always advocating the best experience for the user. The IA employs user-centered design principals and human factors best practices to design the optimal client experience solution.

### **WHAT WE NEED YOU TO DO:**

- Actively participate in requirements gathering sessions. Lead and facilitate group sessions with stakeholders and multi-disciplinary teams to collect needed information. Drive for group consensus and build prioritization in meetings.
- Research the competitive landscape of content management systems and make recommendations relating to WCMS application functionality.
- Identify opportunities to create business value and improve the user experience, based on user and market research
- Apply modular and systematic approaches to user experience design
- Design interactive solutions that address business requirements, technical constraints, research findings, and the user processes, tasks and goals.
- Document design intent clearly for business, creative, and technical audiences, using site maps, wireframes, interaction flow diagrams, with appropriate functional and behavioral annotations.
- Created unified design standards for common functions and tools of the application and to support the development tasks of the application as it continues to grow.
- Act as an advocate and consultant on usability/user experience/information architecture issues during all phases of development

## **ABOUT YOU:**

- University degree in Human Factors, Computer, Information or Design related field, or equivalent work

experience.

- Thorough knowledge of the web and other emerging digital media (5+ years professional web experience)
- 5+ years experience in the role of information architect / user experience designer / interface designer with back-end administrative applications, too design or content management systems.
- Strong and varied portfolio of work in interface/user experience design
- Proven understanding of user-centered design techniques & demonstrated ability to incorporate UCD principles into the architecture and design of user interfaces.
- Knowledge of web client technologies (browsers, HTML, CSS).
- Strong interpersonal skills and ability to work in project teams.
- Strong ability to multi-task and meet deadlines.
- Excellent communication and presentation skills and the ability to articulate ideas effectively.
- Ability to provide creative solutions balancing user, business and technical needs.
- Detail orientation and a passion for getting it right.

#### **KEY ACCOUNTABILITIES:**

- Working closely with business analysts, product manager, project managers, end users and IT teams to obtain and understand business requirements.
- Managing and creating the design of user interface specifications, by applying client research, design standards, industry best practices, taking into account

strategic business objectives, user needs, systems constraints.

- Leading the design review sessions with project teams, acquiring consensus and getting approvals on designs and documentation.
- Contributing to the development, maintenance, and continuous improvement of efficient & effective usability methodology/process, documentation, workflow, ROI, metrics and design standards.
- Continuously developing self and the team by staying current of industry trends and best practices.
- Acting as a user experience advocate and thought leader regarding principles of user experience and user-centered design.

### **STUFF THAT'S NOT ON A RESUME:**

- Innate driver, leader and collaborator across stakeholders.
- Passion for the Internet, technology, efficiency and quality
- Exceptional oral and verbal communication skills.
- A global and strategic thinker
- Ability to work well in a fast paced, agile development environment.

### **WHAT'S IN IT FOR YOU?**

- The opportunity to be part of a company at the cutting edge of the digital media industry; you'll never

get bored in our fast-paced, constantly evolving and challenging environment

- We're focused on helping you develop your career; our innovative and forward-thinking culture is fostered by learning and development including our very own Torstar Digital University
- You'll get real-time recognition for your achievements; our rewards and recognition program, High5, is built on our core values of happiness, focus, innovation, can-do attitude, leadership, continuous learning, collaboration, ethics and awesome people
- We recognize that you have a life outside of work and we offer you real work/life balance.
- We want you to be comfortable at work; in our loft-style, open concept work environment, you can literally feel the excitement and buzz of collaboration, creativity and innovation... not to mention our uber-casual dress code

**About Torstar Digital:** <http://www.torstardigital.com>

Torstar Digital's mission is to deliver technology and strategic leadership to its online-only properties, create winning online businesses that can leverage Torstar Corporation's wealth of media assets and assist in online enabling of Torstar Corporation's existing portfolio of print businesses. Torstar's current portfolio of leading digital properties includes thestar.com, toronto.com, workopolis.com, wheels.ca, Olive Media, eye Return Marketing and a variety of regional sites. **About TOPS:** <http://www.topscms.com>

TOPS provides is a leading edge online publishing and content management solution for world-class digital

publications. TOPS is offered as a Software as a Service (SaaS), providing full 24/7 monitoring, support and hosting of all sites built on the TOPS platform. Please visit, <http://www.topscms.com> for additional information on our products, services and to view a portfolio of clients.