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## THE YOUNG & PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

July 19, 2006

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### BUSINESS PHILOSOPHY

Who would you like to be contacted by?

Other young researchers with similar inquietudes, goals, and ambitions, who would like to share their experiences and discuss the problems they are facing.

I would also like to meet young students and encourage them to continue their careers in the fascinating world of computer science and telecommunications. We have only seen the tip of the iceberg, and the most fun is yet to come.

Best way to stay ahead

Imagination, auto critic, 24x7 curiosity, persistence and a sharp mind.

Guiding principle in life

Try to be the best at something (anything). Put a lot of passion at what you do and never look back.

Yardstick of success

First of all, it is the personal joy and realization that you have completed a well-done job. If you are as critical as we (researchers) often are, this is an unequivocal sign that you are on the good path. Then, success is frequently linked to how much you have influenced the thinking of other researchers, how cited your work is, how many use your ideas, or in general, how you have been able to change the way people live and work.

Goal yet to be achieved

I would like to help improve research and innovation in both Europe and Latin America. There is a lot of talent in these two places and we have the potential to make a great impact, but still a lot to learn from the way that research and development is done in the US.

Best practical advice

Luck does not exist and you should not expect it; instead fight for things.

Supportive words from a family member or friend on your venture

Where there's a will, there's a way.

Mentor

I had different mentors at different points in my career:

- | Prof. Ernst Biersack (Ph.D. advisor),
- | Dr. Paul Francis (inventor of the Network Address Translation – NAT box, and co-inventor of the next generation Internet protocol - IPv6)
- | Vitali Fridman (Software architect in the Silicon Valley and one of the best engineers I have ever met).

Most memorable business experience

Years 2000-2002 in the Silicon Valley, California. I lived through first the hype and then the burst of probably the biggest technological bubble in the history of humanity.

I went through two company mergers and acquisitions but also saw major reorganizations. I could never have thought that things can move so fast.

I enjoyed many moments and have unforgettable experiences. For instance, at my first company (Inktomi), I was part of the first engineering team to deliver a 3G wireless data acceleration solution, which is currently used by to speed up downloads in mobile phones across the world. At my second company (Tahoe



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Networks), we were known as the 'dream team' of the Silicon Valley, however, our only exercise was limited to occasional evening barbecuing.

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## TRUE CONFESSIONS



What motivates you for success?

Curiosity and the power of changing things.

What was your first job?

I do not quite remember very well, but it was either a French billiard player in a Spanish tournament or a private music teacher for composition and harmony.

Like best about what you do

Creativity, the challenge, being able to change the world and of course getting to play with the coolest technologies.

Like least about what you do

Nothing really. If I were able to do the same job somewhere close to the Mediterranean, it would be the dream job.

At age 10, what did you want to be when you grew up?

By order of preference: A doctor, a singer, a chef.

Biggest pastime outside of work

Cooking for friends and trying new food, painting, listening to a good conversation while sipping some good wine.

Person most interested in meeting

Ferran Adria, the new Picasso of the cuisine. I would love to get a glimpse of his fabulous creativity. Maybe I could throw a pinch of his inspiration into my research...

Leader in business most interested in meeting

I admire Bill Gates for his philanthropic contributions and his technological revolution over the past 25 years. I have met Bill Gates several times through my work at Microsoft, but would love to spend more time talking to him about his new plans to drive the Gates foundation.

Three interesting facts about yourself

I love playing tangos on my accordion.

I speak Spanish, English, French, and some Greek!

When I was a kid I could not roll the R (big problem if your last name is Rodriguez Rodriguez)

Three characteristics that describe you

I am the eternal optimist

I do not accept things until I understand them, but then I become a feverous defendant.

I am a great listener, and I am a good friend of friends

Three greatest passions

Tasting good food and cider pouring in Asturias

Sailing and enjoying the sun across the Mediterranean

Socratic dialectical discussions

Favorite book

I have started many books but finished only a few. Among those, I would pick the "City of Joy", for its celebration of life and dignifying attitudes.

Favorite cause

**The Genographic project**, a thrilling adventure about who we are, the human journey, ultimate human history, and to what extend we are different and where we come from.

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## connectionPOINT

Want to get in touch with Pablo Rodriguez Rodriguez?

It's not enough to just read about what young, driven, and forward-thinking individuals are doing out there. It's important to connect with them! Go ahead and send our profilee a quick email to say hello! If you have a question, want to give kudos, or just want to drop them a line - we encourage you to reach out!

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