



International Developer Assessment

This assessment is designed to test your technical abilities and qualifications for a foreign-based position with Boylston Technology Group. You will be asked to perform a series of technical tasks, as well as answer written questions, as part of this assessment. Following your completion of this assessment, your submission will be evaluated by the BTG team and will be used as a major consideration during the hiring process.

PLEASE READ THROUGH ALL INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY. SUBMISSIONS THAT DO NOT FOLLOW DIRECTIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

Submission:

Please submit all information and relevant files through our website's job application tool at **www.boylstontech.com/international_careers**. Please follow the directions for submission for each individual question. **PLEASE APPLY ONLY USING THIS ONLY TOOL, INCLUDING ALL NECESSARY URLS, FILES, AND ANSWERS FOR ALL QUESTIONS.** We will reply to all submissions by email. Qualified candidates will be granted an interview with our firm.

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Web 2.0 Stock Updater

Your Challenge (in a nutshell): Create a web 2.0 web interface that uses AJAX to query and update stock prices.

Your front-end: AJAX Stock Lister

Create a heavily-Javascripted front-end that allows a user to select some of their favorite stocks (by ticker symbol) and add them to a lookup list. Your stock checker will query each of these stock listings in the order they are listed, using AJAX.

Users should be able to order and re-order their stock list once selected. You may want to implement interesting Javascript functionality, such as drag-and-drop, for this portion.

Your stock checker should constantly query and update stock prices for the selected lookup list—without having to reload or refresh the page—using AJAX. Your interface should also allow users to change the time intervals between stock listing search calls (i.e. three seconds between each stock in the list, etc.). This should be changeable on-the-fly and should use Javascript functionality of your choice (i.e. scrollbar, dial, etc.).

Lastly, your front-end should auto-save to a back-end database the most recent user-settings to be applied. For example, your front-end should automatically save the most current stock lookup list, stock order, and interval between stock quote searches.

You are free to contribute any other additional features that you think would give your submission character and appeal. We encourage creativity and individuality in all submissions.

PLEASE TURN THE PAGE TO CONTINUE THE CHALLENGE



Your back-end: Yahoo! Finance Grab

Your tool will use Yahoo Finance to provide all stock information. Yahoo Finance provides up-to-the-minute stock quotes. Their quote search engine is accessible by passing a query value thru the URL. For example, <http://finance.yahoo.com/q?s=AAPL> will return information on Apple (ticker symbol: AAPL).

In PHP, code a solution that grabs the correct Yahoo Finance page on the back-end, parses it, and returns the latest stock price. However, your solution must parse the resulting HTML after requesting [http://finance.yahoo.com/q?s=\(variable\)](http://finance.yahoo.com/q?s=(variable)). **It may not make use of any APIs or web services to query the data directly.** Of course, if a function searches for something for which there are no results from Yahoo, your system should pass back an alert to this.

Your code should be commented and clean. We want to see you create something that is solid and works, but given that this is an overly-complex way of getting stock quotes anyways, we welcome any creativity you'd like to interject.

Once completed, please include all source code with your application submission, using our tool at www.boylstontech.com/international_careers. If at all possible, please host your submission and provide a URL with your application.

**THE ASSESSMENT IS NOW COMPLETE.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUBMISSION.**