

Johanna Almeida

Technical Founder, Project Falcon

Porto, Portugal

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FOUNDER OVERVIEW

Technical founder and systems architect with 10+ years building distributed JVM infrastructure for global production environments (BMW Group, enterprise data platforms). Currently building **Project Falcon** — a sovereign, protocol-native real-time communication layer built on the AT Protocol.

Focus areas:

- High-concurrency JVM systems (Project Loom)
- Decentralized identity (DID:PLC)
- Protocol-first architecture replacing SaaS lock-in
- Real-time ingestion infrastructure

Positioned at the intersection of:

- Identity
 - Distributed systems
 - Post-SaaS collaboration infrastructure
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KEY SIGNALS

- YC W26 Applicant
 - 10+ years production distributed systems experience
 - Ex-BMW Group infrastructure & manufacturing systems
 - Built AT Protocol firehose ingestion stack
 - Zero-trust identity gateway (JWT + DID verification)
 - JVM high-concurrency architecture using virtual threads
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Project Falcon

Technical Founder

Feb 2026 – Present | Porto

Project Falcon is a sovereign real-time communication infrastructure layer built on ATProto — designed to replace centralized collaboration platforms with portable identity, protocol-native messaging, and zero platform lock-in.

Architecture & Execution

- Built a Loom-based distributed backend capable of ingesting global AT Protocol firehose traffic with sub-60ms event latency.
- Designed a microservices monorepo optimized for rapid iteration and deterministic deployments.
- Implemented a Zero-Trust Gateway performing cryptographic DID/JWT verification, removing reliance on centralized user stores.
- Architected identity portability via DID:PLC, enabling user migration across services without platform dependency.
- Created Sovereign Integration Vessels (SIVs) to ingest and normalize real-time signals from developer ecosystems (GitHub, Vercel, ATProto).
- Established high-frequency backend iteration cycles with ~32-second build/deploy feedback loops.

Founder Role

- Leading protocol architecture, backend systems, and identity layer design.
 - Driving technical narrative and infrastructure positioning within the ATProto ecosystem.
 - Engaging with distributed systems and protocol engineering communities.
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Professional Background

SENIOR FULL STACK ENGINEER — NEARCODE CONSULTING

Jan 2025 – Present

- Architected REST/SOAP services for global vehicle data systems prioritizing availability and data integrity.
- Built Python pipelines for Snowflake data lakes, enabling enterprise-scale ingestion and analytics workflows.

SOFTWARE ARCHITECT & DEVELOPER — CRITICAL TECHWORKS (BMW GROUP)

May 2019 – Jan 2025

- Led development of production systems supporting global vehicle assembly planning.
- Scaled Kubernetes-based cloud infrastructure using Quarkus and JVM services.
- Delivered zero-downtime database migrations across Oracle/PostgreSQL environments.
- Established JVM performance and architecture standards across distributed teams.

SOFTWARE ENGINEER — GLINTT

Sept 2017 – May 2019

- Built enterprise healthcare integrations and deployment pipelines.
 - Contributed to DevOps automation and delivery improvements.
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Technical Depth

Distributed Systems & Backend

- JVM architecture (Java, Loom, concurrency design)
- Spring Boot, Quarkus
- Microservices & event-driven systems
- High-throughput ingestion infrastructure

Identity & Protocols

- AT Protocol
- DID:PLC / DID:Web
- JWT cryptographic verification
- Protocol-first system design

Infrastructure

- Kubernetes, Rancher, Docker
- Observability (Prometheus, Grafana, Promtail)
- CI/CD performance optimization

Data Systems

- PostgreSQL, Oracle, SQL Server
- Redis
- Snowflake data pipelines

Frontend / Clients

- React, TypeScript
 - Exploration of native clients (Tauri / Compose) for low-latency interfaces
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Education & Credentials

- Oracle Certified Professional — Java Programmer
- YC W26 Applicant
- UPTEC Residency Applicant
- Neo Residency Applicant

- Antler Applicant