Josh Lakenan Software Engineer

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PROFILE

I'm a software engineer who takes pride in solving challenging problems with positivity, creativity, and consistency. Recently I built Pinniped, an open source Backend as a Service (BaaS) for fast moving Node.js engineers. I've previously worked as a software developer at General Motors and in various operations leadership roles. I'm always learning new things, as is demonstrated by both my technical and non-technical skills, such as juggling and cultivating bonsai trees.

TECHNICAL EXPERIENCE

Software Engineer, Pinniped - pinniped-baas.dev 🔗   2024 – present

Built an open-source BaaS solution that creates and deploys customizable backends for engineers seeking portability and a familiar way to build custom application logic with native Node.js, rather than serverless functions.

- Created an auto-generating **REST API** layer with **Express.js** to support CRUD operations on a dynamic set of user generated database tables.
- Implemented a **SQLite** schema management system with table metadata storage, custom models, and migrations to ensure schema consistency between development and production environments.
- Leveraged the **Node Event Emitter** to create an event driven extensibility framework for customizing application logic.
- Used **AWS SDK v3** and **Node.js** to build a deployment pipeline CLI that creates, manages, and deploys Pinniped apps to **AWS EC2**.
- Automated the fetching and renewal of SSL certificates with **Let's Encrypt** to ensure consistent HTTPS connections.
- Crafted a **React** admin UI in to provide user-friendly table schema management, database backups, and request monitoring.
- Designed, built, and deployed a **JavaScript** SDK to facilitate intuitive frontend interactions with the Pinniped backend REST API.

Software Engineer | Ecommerce Business Owner, Travelization 🔗   2020 – 2023

Developed, and sold an Ecommerce business while building software engineering skills to support a career transition back into tech.

- Used **Node.js** and to build an internal tool for automating cost of goods sold calculations, streamlining accounting processes.
- Migrated the Travelization.org site from Wordpress to Shopify, adding a new sales channel and increasing sales by 2%.
- Configured multi sales channel fulfillment software to reduce off-Amazon fulfillment costs by 40%.
- Created inventory forecasting models and operational best practices to reduce costs and increase efficiency.

Software Developer, General Motors   2015 – 2016

Worked as a member of GM's Computer Aided Engineering (CAE) organization on the High Performance Compute (HPC) team.

- Designed and executed software test plans supporting the processing needs of 20+ internal engineering models used by vehicle design engineers.
- Coordinated global user acceptance testing of High Performance Compute infrastructure upgrades.

OTHER EXPERIENCE

Senior District Manager, Skyzone   2016 – 2020

Started as a general manager and was promoted through various leadership roles to my final position as Senior District Manager, responsible for the success of 13 recreational facilities and an organization of 450+ team members across 4 states.

- Launched 3 multi-million dollar facilities, hired and trained 15 general managers, 1 district manager, and over 150 team members.
- Led large, diverse teams to meet and exceed revenue and customer retention goals, delivering 14M+ in yearly revenue.
- Created operational systems and training materials used to ensure operational security and efficiency across the organization.

SKILLS

Back End	Front End	Cloud	Other
Proficient: Node, Express, REST APIs, SQL, PostgreSQL, MongoDB, SQLite, Go _Past Experience:_ Java, C#, Python	JavaScript, Typescript, React, HTML/CSS, jQuery, handlebars	_AWS:_ EC2, S3, Lambda, API Gateway, CloudFront, CDK, SDK v3 _Other:_ Digital Ocean Droplet	Git, Github, Linux, Bash, HTTP, Jest, Nginx, Object Oriented Programming (OOP), Jest

EDUCATION

Launch School - launchschool.com 🔗   2022 – 2023

A multi-year, mastery-based software engineering curriculum that prioritizes fundamentals over trending frameworks.

Brigham Young University, Bachelor of Science (BS), Information Systems   2012 – 2015

Built stack web applications and mobile projects using Python, Django, C#, .Net, and MySQL.