

# LEONARD HAWKES

## SENIOR SOFTWARE ENGINEER | PUBLIC SPEAKER

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Software Engineer with over 6 years of experience in developing and optimizing high-performance applications, emphasizing clean code and strategic problem-solving. Proficient in technologies like React, GraphQL, and AWS, leading engineering teams to enhance code quality and reduce API response times by 40%. Passionate about advancing fintech solutions and real-time payment systems, while also contributing to industry discussions on AI and emerging technologies.

### TECHNICAL EXPERTISE

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React, TypeScript, JavaScript, HTML, CSS, Node.js, Git, AWS, Jira, Jenkins, Spinnaker, GraphQL, CI/CD, Java, Springboot, MongoDB, Express, Restful APIs, Figma, Bootstrap, Web Development, Front-End Framework, JQuery, , Microservices, Cloud Architecture, Team Collaboration, Code Optimization, Problem Solving, User Acceptance Testing, Code Coverage.

### EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

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#### SOFTWARE ENGINEER III

**Jan 2025 - Present**  
*Jersey City, New Jersey*

- › Enhance Real-Time Payments with new features, boosting efficiency and user engagement.
- › Lead full-cycle React app development, optimizing performance and scalability.
- › Collaborate with teams to create intuitive interfaces, elevating user satisfaction.
- › Guide technical discussions, shaping crucial design decisions for robust architecture.
- › Improve UI application, enhancing maintainability and performance through best practices.
- › Direct end-to-end React application lifecycle for Real-Time Payments, making critical technical decisions that ensure platform stability, performance, and scalability.

#### SOFTWARE ENGINEER

**May 2021 - Jan 2025**  
*Jersey City, New Jersey*

- › Lead 5 engineers, improving code coverage by 30% through clean code practices.
- › Migrated codebases to AWS, solving access issues with strategic changes.
- › Managed production deployments, ensuring smooth frontend implementation.
- › Reduced API response times by 40% with GraphQL, enhancing data querying.
- › Decreased page latency by optimizing React packages and state management.

#### OPERATIONS LEAD

**Nov 2020 - May 2021**  
*Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania*

- › Oversee ICU tech support, ensuring critical systems remain operational with swift issue resolution.
- › Directed Windows migrations, enhancing efficiency and reducing downtime for over 1,000 endpoints.
- › Implemented software patches, maintaining network security and operational continuity.
- › Documented migration processes, streamlining future project planning and execution.

#### IT HELP DESK TECHNICIAN

**Nov 2019 - Jul 2020**  
*Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania*

- › Managed user accounts and passwords in Active Directory, enhancing security protocols.
- › Facilitated seamless transition to remote work, ensuring business continuity.
- › Utilized remote desktop tools to resolve IT issues, improving response efficiency.
- › Supported peer-to-peer file sharing, optimizing remote collaboration.
- › Adapted IT infrastructure to meet government shutdown requirements, maintaining productivity.

## LINKS

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Portfolio: [leonardhawkes.com](https://leonardhawkes.com) LinkedIn: [linkedin.com/in/leonardhawkes](https://linkedin.com/in/leonardhawkes).

## CERTIFICATIONS

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**AWS CLOUD PRACTITIONER**  
*Amazon Web Services*

## EDUCATION

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**BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN COMPUTER ENGINEERING** **Aug 2017**  
*University of Pittsburgh-Pittsburgh Campus*

## PATENTS

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### **SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR PROCESSING STREAMS OF BALANCE TRANSFER DATA RECORDS**

Patent Application # IDF 2022 0296 US01

Filed: 10/25/2022 with U.S Patent & Trademarks Office (USPTO)

## PROJECTS

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### **PILOTHELPER**

#### ***Project***

- Designed and developed a real-time chat application offering confidential support to pilots
  - Built a secure chat application using JavaScript and MongoDB, hosted on Heroku and Squarespace
  - Developed RESTful APIs to fetch real-time chat messages
  - Implemented SSL/TLS certificates and custom DNS configurations
  - Integrated simulated typing indicators and timestamps
  - Designed and deployed a custom GPT powered AI assistant
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