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Paul F. Esch-Laurent

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Full-stack senior software engineer & occasional technical writer based in Minneapolis, MN.
Core technologies: JavaScript, TypeScript, HTML, (S)CSS, Bash, Python, Go, and Docker.

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Software Engineer at Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis *01/2025–Present*

MINNEAPOLIS, MN | FINANCIAL SERVICES | TYPESCRIPT (NEXT.JS), AWS, TERRAFORM, POSTGRES

- Meta: migrating C# .NET monolith web apps to AWS GovCloud using a serverless architecture.
- Deployed Next.js frontends with TypeScript, integrating with Lambda-based microservices.
- Automated PostgreSQL migrations & rollbacks in GitLab CI/CD pipelines.

Senior Software Engineer at Niceboard *09/2024–12/2024*

REMOTE | JOB BOARD SAAS STARTUP | JAVASCRIPT (NODE.JS, HAPI.JS, VUE), CSS, POSTGRES, ELASTICSEARCH

- First full-time technical hire at a bootstrapped job board SaaS startup: Niceboard.
- Designed & developed custom transactional email `From:` domains web UI & SendGrid API integration.
- Reduced deployment time 50% by automating CDN uploads and cache invalidation in a CI/CD pipeline.
- Implemented single sign-on (SSO) authentication using SAML and OpenID Connect (OIDC).

Freelance Software Engineer & Technical Writer *11/2023–08/2024*

REMOTE | VARIOUS STARTUPS | TYPESCRIPT (NEXT.JS), PYTHON (FASTAPI), CSS (TAILWIND), PRISMIC, VERCEL, HUBSPOT, FIGMA

- Wrote popular articles including in-app browsers, HTMX, and Alembic database migrations.
- Consulted with bootstrapped founder on how to technically build their MVP within a limited budget.
- Integrated Next.js web application with HubSpot forms for automated lead generation.
- Translated Figma mockups into responsive, accessible, and visually-appealing web applications.
- Built & maintained headless CMS blog with Prismic leading to increased content & organic traffic.

Software Development Engineer at Kindly Human *05/2023–11/2023*

REMOTE | MENTAL HEALTHCARE STARTUP | PYTHON (FLASK, ALEMBIC), TYPESCRIPT (REACT), TAILWIND, POSTGRES, AWS

- Developed and documented a workflow to link a React component library into a Yarn monorepo.
- Debugged and fixed a misconfigured service worker cache resulting in 20% fewer helpdesk tickets.
- Reduced noisy on-call alerts by 90%: added logic to handle frequent Twilio SMS & MMS error codes.
- Architected moving email campaigns from custom transactional logic into a Mailchimp integration.

Software Design Engineer II at Mattermost *03/2022–12/2022*

REMOTE | OPEN-SOURCE COLLABORATION SOFTWARE STARTUP | GO, TYPESCRIPT (REACT), POSTGRES, MARIADB, SQLITE

- Supported and maintained Mattermost's open-source project management product Focalboard.
- Engaged in 200+ code reviews along with supporting community contributions e.g. Hacktoberfest.
- Created API endpoints to export history data enabling compliance for highly regulated customers.
- Shipped guest account support and 2 new roles in the RBAC permissions setup for the product.

Software Engineer at Target *07/2019–03/2022*

REMOTE | FORTUNE 50 U.S. RETAILER | JAVA (SPRING, MICRONAUT), REACT, GO, PYTHON, BASH, CI/CD, DOCKER, KUBERNETES

- Worked on infrastructure: databases-as-a-service, Kubernetes + Spinnaker, and a serverless platform.
- Designed a utility to ingest logs emitted from a React frontend and export them to a log aggregator.
- Mentored a group of 6 new-graduate junior software engineers providing guidance and advice.
- Led creation of a JVM (Micronaut) service to inject Consul & Vault contents into a serverless runtime.
- Embedded on a team (~16/hr month) building a Target-flavored create-react-app project starter kit.

Software Developer at <u>24G</u>   *2017–2019*

CLAWSON, MI | MARKETING & ADVERTISING AGENCY | PHP, JAVASCRIPT (NODE.JS, VUE, JQUERY), HTML, CSS (SASS), APACHE, MYSQL, AWS

- Created websites, web apps, e-commerce integrations, and digital experiences for conferences & expos.
- Configured and deployed with AWS including DynamoDB, Lambda, S3, EC2, and API Gateway.
- Increased website performance 10x by enabling gzip compression and reducing HTTP requests.

Web Developer at <u>Sungem</u>   *2016*

PETOSKEY, MI | MARKETING & DESIGN AGENCY | PHP, JAVASCRIPT (NODE.JS, JQUERY), HTML, CSS (SASS, BOOTSTRAP), NGINX

- Created a "cookie consent" component used for GDPR-compliance across multiple global brands.
- Developed websites and e-commerce sites with a custom-built CMS, Shopify, and Squarespace.

ACCREDITED EDUCATION

B.S. Computer Engineering, <u>Michigan Technological University</u>

- VP of <u>Linux / UNIX Users Group</u> and <u>Humane Interface Design Enterprise</u>.
- Organized Michigan Tech's hackathon: <u>Winter Wonderhack</u>.

SELECT PUBLICATIONS

- <u>Pitfalls of In-App Browsers</u> on Frontend Masters (2024)
- <u>Database Migrations with Alembic</u> on TestDriven.io (2024)
- <u>Making Mermaid Diagrams in Markdown</u> on CSS-Tricks (2022)
- <u>Pseudo-standard Text File Adoption Rates</u> on my personal blog (2019)

KEY: VALUES

- **Coffee:** yes, please. Preferably a light to medium roast served black. Pour-over, if possible.
- **Interests**: driving a manual transmission, finding my N=1 bike, and using Oxford commas.
- **Buzzwords:** CI/CD, serverless, dogfooding, the Cloud, devops, *-as-a-service, AI, ML, LLM, et al.