

# Richard Bimmer *Systems Engineer*

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Richard is a Backend and Server Software Engineer with 5 years of professional experience, primarily in financial messaging and distributed systems. He is passionate about open-source development, security, and fault-tolerant architectures.

## Skills

**Java, Linux/RHEL Commandline, Git, Technical documentation & written communication** — *Very Exeperienced*

**MySQL/Postgres, Docker, HTML/CSS, Python, PHP** — *Experienced*

**React/NextJS, C/C++, Kafka, OpenShift, Ruby** — *Familiar*

## Education

**James Madison University,**

*Computer Science* ☑

2016 – 2020 | Harrisonburg, VA

## Professional Experience

**Backend and Systems Engineer, SWIFT** (*Global Financial Messaging Network for Secure International Payments*) ☑

2020 – present | Hybrid

- Implemented and tested a high-performance Kafka producer in containerized instances (using Kafka and Docker) written in Java, capable of processing thousands of transactions per second at peak with fast and strong scalability and resilience in production
- Led the modernization of a legacy internal web application, migrating to a React frontend and a Python backend that resolved long-standing technical debt, improved performance, and enhanced the user experience. Ultimately, this resulted in over 80% less support tickets for our team and our internal users were much happier
- Served as the lead developer in modernizing and qualifying a Java-based message signature verification system, collaborating with multiple developers to drive implementation, define development priorities, and shape testing strategies.
- Mentored interns during two summer programs, providing technical guidance and career development advice
- Assisted in evaluating and interviewing candidates for both intern and full-time roles helping identify strong candidates who aligned with team needs and company culture
- Enhanced and maintained an internal test automation tool, improving efficiency in running nightly regression tests across hundreds of scenarios, reducing manual intervention and accelerating release cycles

**Freelance Software Developer**

2015 – 2020 | Remote

- Worked directly with clients to gather requirements, provide progress updates, and deliver full-stack solutions
- Developed custom plugins and websites using Java, PHP, and MySQL
- Completed 10+ client projects while balancing high school and college studies

## Projects

**Pilot Training Simulation – Subscription & Billing System (PHP),**

*pilotapproach.com* ☑

2021

- Designed and implemented a complete subscription and billing system for a flight simulation training application in collaboration with a colleague
- Integrated Stripe for secure and efficient online payment processing, ensuring seamless transactions for users

## Awards

**2nd Century STEM Scholarship**

*(2016-2020), James Madison University*

**President's List,**

*James Madison University* ☑

2017

**Simulation Programming Award 2nd Place State - Virginia, FBLA**

2016