Michael Bumann

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Experience

Great Lakes Energy Rwanda

Technical Consultant ● 2015 — present

Technical consultant for Kigali based solar energy solutions provider. I planned and implemented a centralized solar monitoring system and have been working on a mobile money integrated smart meter solution that enables a pay-per-consumption business model for solar systems in rural Rwanda.

Railslove GmbH

Co-Founder ● 2008 — 2015

Co-founder of Railslove, a software consultancy for sustainable software and innovative web products. Railslove applies a lean and agile approach to turn ideas into applications using modern web technologies. The company had grown to ~20 employees in 2015.

During my time at Railslove I worked with a wide range of clients from different sectors and sizes. Some of the recent projects:

- **SEPAone** — Team lead and software architect of the SEPA direct debit payment solution. I directed the team designing and implementing the APIs as well as the EBICS (Electronic Banking Internet Communication Standard) integration to German and European banks.
  Responsibilities: software architecture, project managment, customer integration support

- **Skrill** — Technical consultant to the business and product development teams at Skrill. I led the development teams for the merchant facing management tools and developer APIs of Skrill's PSP (Payment Service Provider) product. I coordinated and planned the product development and consulted Skrill on strategic product decisions.
  Responsibilities: software architecture, product management, team lead

- **BitPesa** — Technical consultant in charge of the launch of the Bitcoin to mobile money (m-pesa) remittance solution for East Africa. I have led technical negotiations with potential banking and integration partners and consulted BitPesa on the partner selection.
  Responsibilities: software architecture, project management, budget planning, partner management

Hackers & Thinkers UG

Partner ● 2013 — Present

Founding partner of the holding company hackers & thinkers UG. Its latest venture is hack.institute which is currently organizing an innovation roadshow for the German Postbank.

DaWanda

2006 — 2007

Part of the founding team and in charge of the product development of DaWanda, the marketplace for handmade products in Europe.

Education

Hochschule Bonn-Rhein-Sieg

Bachelor of Science in Business Information Systems ● 2007 — 2009

Combination of computer science and business administration; Focus: Business Process Management

Hochschule Heilbronn

Electronic Business ● 2004 — 2006

Current Special Projects (2015 / 2016)

Kosmos.org

Kosmos is an Open Source group communication tool built using open protocols and standards. I am working on a block chain based and decentralized solution to organize and govern the project/company. The current goal is to reward contributions with block chain traded stake in the project/company.

Bitcoin, Ethereum, Blockchain

My current focus is on Bitcoin and block chain technology and its effect on future business models. I am doing independent research on Smart Contract, Decentralized Autonomous Organizations, Online Payments and related topics.

Some of my thoughts and experiments are documented on my blog: michaelbumann.com/tagged/bitcoin

- Whatsapp chat bot to remit Bitcoin to a mobile money (m-pesa) account in Kenya
- Open Source Mobile Money system for financial inclusion
- Machine to Machine/API Bitcoin payments
- Online payments: transfer value instead of information

Community Work

Coworking-Cologne / Coworking.de

Founder of Coworking-Cologne which was the first coworking space in Cologne, Germany in 2007. The goal of the not-for-profit cooperative is to support the local tech community and it is home of many events and organizations. Dingfabrik, the region's first fab lab initiated from this community.
The cooperative also initiated the German network Coworking.de in 2008.

AfricaHackTrip

Member of the AfricaHackTrip which was a 6 week trip to East-Africa exploring tech and innovation hubs in Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda and Tanzania. The goal was to learn about the local IT industry and to foster collaborations across continents.

Conferences & Meetups

Co-organizer of a broad range of IT conferences and meetups (i.e. DevHouse, Nodecamp.eu, Ruby/JS meetups, Kigali Online Payments meetup).

Contact

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