

# Michael Bumann

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## Experience

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### Railslove GmbH

**Co-Founder • 2008 — 2015**

Co-founder of Railslove, a software consultancy for sustainable software and innovative web products. We apply 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:

- **Payango** — Lead developer of the pre-paid VISA card product. Responsible for systems integrations.
- **SEPAone** — Team lead and software architect of the SEPA direct debit payment solution. My team designed and implemented the merchant facing APIs as well as the EBICS (Electronic Banking Internet Communication Standard) integration to German and European banks.
- **Skrill** — Technical consultant to the business development and product development teams at Skrill. My team was designing and developing the merchant facing management tools and developer APIs of their PSP (Payment Service Provider) product.
- **BitPesa** — Technical consultant in charge of the initial launch of the Bitcoin to mobile money (m-pesa) remittance solution for East Africa.

### 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.

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## Education

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### Hochschule Bonn-Rhein-Sieg

**Bachelor of Science in Business Information Systems • 2007 — 2009**

Focus: Business Process Management

### Hochschule Heilbronn

**Electronic Business • 2004 — 2006**

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## Current Special Projects (2015/2016)

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### Great Lakes Energy

Kigali based Great Lakes Energy offers energy solutions for rural healthcare providers. Being interested in solar-systems and innovative energy solutions, I am supporting the team developing a solar energy monitoring system for rural Rwanda.

### 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](http://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

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## Community Work

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### Coworking-Cologne / Coworking.de

Coworking-Cologne was the first coworking space in Cologne, Germany. The not-for-profit cooperative was founded to support the local tech community and became the home of many user-groups and events. Dingfabrik, the region's first fab lab initiated from this community.

The cooperative also initiated the German network Coworking.de in 2007.

### AfricaHackTrip

The AfricaHackTrip 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

I was a founding co-organizer of several conferences and meetups (i.e. DevHouse, Nodecamp.eu, Ruby/JS meetups, Kigali Online Payments meetup).

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## Contact

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