

# WINGSTON SHARON WILSON

Engineering Manager | Product Development & Machine Learning | Team Leadership

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## PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Engineering Manager with 15+ years of experience in software engineering, product development, and machine learning leading cross-functional teams serving millions of users daily. Currently managing engineering teams at Booking.com, the world's most visited travel website. Proven expertise in project management, system architecture, agile methodologies, team leadership, and technical strategy with track record of delivering products from concept to production at scale.

**Core Competencies:** Engineering Management • Cross-functional Team Leadership • Product Development • Machine Learning Integration • System Architecture • Agile/Scrum • DevOps • Cloud Computing • Technical Strategy • Stakeholder Management

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## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### ENGINEERING MANAGER - FLIGHTS | Booking.com | Amsterdam

August 2024 – Present

**Engineering Leadership & Machine Learning Integration** - Built rapid **prototyping frameworks** and ML pipelines reducing concept-to-MVP timeline from months to weeks using Python, TensorFlow, and cloud infrastructure - **Developed proof-of-concept systems** including RAG-based travel Q&A applications, securing executive buy-in for production development through stakeholder management - **Led hackathon team to first place** with innovative ML-powered travel assistant prototype demonstrating technical innovation and team collaboration - **Established model training workflows** using AWS, GCP, and Kubernetes for experimentation and CI/CD deployment - **Created cross-team collaboration processes** enabling product managers and engineering teams to understand ML capabilities and technical constraints - **Delivered technical workshops** on machine learning applications in regulated travel industry, demonstrating thought leadership

**Product Engineering & Team Management** - Owned end-to-end development of "Fly Anywhere" search system from ideation to production deployment using Java microservices and system architecture - **Managed engineering team** of 12+ across backend development, frontend development, and data engineering disciplines with agile methodologies - **Drove go-to-market strategy** for flight products, coordinating

with business development and marketing teams through cross-functional collaboration - **Led system modernization** migrating legacy Perl applications to Java microservices architecture improving scalability and performance optimization - **Implemented experimentation framework** using ML models for personalization, achieving measurable conversion optimization and A/B testing - **Delivered partnership integrations** with Apple, Kayak, and Google Flights, expanding customer acquisition channels through API development - **Managed flights landing page** serving millions of daily searches, optimizing for user experience and search engine optimization

**Key Results:** Improved system reliability to 99.9% uptime • 40% increase in customer acquisition through strategic partnerships • Cost reduction through process improvement

### **SENIOR SOFTWARE DEVELOPER & TEAM LEAD | Booking.com | Amsterdam**

January 2019 – September 2021

**Engineering Capabilities & Data-Driven Development - Founded machine learning research program** leveraging big data platforms for product optimization and business intelligence - **Led payment processing optimization** reducing booking failures by 30% through predictive modeling and quality assurance - **Built cross-functional teams** resolving complex technical challenges affecting millions of transactions through problem-solving and technical expertise - **Developed experimentation infrastructure** enabling rapid hypothesis testing and data-driven decision making - **Mentored engineering teams** in data-driven development practices and production system design demonstrating leadership skills - **Collaborated with product management** and UX design to conceptualize and implement innovative hotel products using agile development

### **DEVELOPMENT TEAM LEAD | Booking.com | Amsterdam**

June 2018 – December 2018

**Leadership Development & Team Building - Built three engineering teams** from initial hiring through productive delivery using talent acquisition and performance management - **Implemented conflict resolution processes** maintaining team cohesion across diverse stakeholders through communication skills - **Established mentoring programs** for team members and cross-organizational relationship building demonstrating people management

### **SOFTWARE ENGINEER | Booking.com | Amsterdam**

May 2017 – June 2018

**Core Platform Development - Developed Calango framework** - internal web application framework used across the company demonstrating software development expertise - **Implemented machine learning solutions** using Java and Python/Spark

for business challenges and data processing - **Improved system scalability** ensuring optimal performance under high traffic conditions through code optimization

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## PREVIOUS TECHNICAL EXPERIENCE

### SOFTWARE ENGINEER | Industry Networks FZC | Sharjah, UAE

July 2015 – May 2017

**AI-Powered Platform Development - Built NLP-powered application** enabling natural language processing interaction with construction database using machine learning algorithms - **Integrated OpenCV systems** for automated data ingestion from field agent photographs using computer vision - **Led migration** from legacy ASP.NET to modern Python Django architecture improving system performance - **Architected scalable system** with web interface, ML server, Elasticsearch cluster, and job scheduler using microservices architecture

### SOFTWARE DEVELOPER | Premiere Digital Services | Bangalore, India

July 2013 – July 2015

**Production Machine Learning Systems - Built complete ML product** from data acquisition through model deployment handling big data processing - **Managed 200 PB datasets** across multi-region database infrastructure for real-time inference and data analytics - **Optimized large-scale data processing** pipelines for efficient deployment and file management using Apache Spark

### CTO & FOUNDER | Workshop India | Vellore, India

April 2011 – September 2012

**Technical Leadership & Business Development - Founded and scaled** technical training startup to 500+ customers across multiple technical training programs - **Led distributed team** of 8+ engineers managing multiple concurrent projects using project management methodologies - **Built IoT prototypes** including WiFi quadcopter demonstrating hardware-software integration and embedded systems - **Developed technical curriculum** staying current with industry trends and best practices in software engineering

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## TECHNICAL EXPERTISE

### Programming Languages & Technologies

**Languages:** Python, Java, JavaScript, C, MATLAB, Perl, SQL

**Machine Learning & AI:** PyTorch, TensorFlow, Scikit-learn, OpenCV, NLP Frameworks, Deep Learning, Neural Networks

**Web Development:** Django, Spring Framework, React, Node.js, RESTful APIs, Microservices Architecture

**Data & Analytics:** Apache Spark, Elasticsearch, Kafka, Redis, PostgreSQL, Data Pipelines, Big Data Processing

**Cloud & Infrastructure:** AWS, GCP, Kubernetes, Docker, DevOps, CI/CD, Infrastructure as Code, Serverless

**Mobile Development:** Android Development, Java, OpenCV Integration, Mobile App Development

## Engineering Management & Leadership

**Team Management:** Cross-functional Team Leadership, People Management, Performance Management, Talent Acquisition, Mentoring

**Product Development:** Product Management, End-to-end Product Development, Go-to-Market Strategy, Product Roadmap

**Project Management:** Agile Methodologies, Scrum, Kanban, Project Planning, Risk Management, Stakeholder Management

**Technical Strategy:** System Architecture, Technology Selection, Technical Roadmap Planning, Digital Transformation

## Methodologies & Frameworks

**Development:** Agile Development, Scrum Master, DevOps Practices, Test-Driven Development, Code Review

**Quality Assurance:** Quality Management, Performance Testing, Security Testing, Compliance Management

**Process Improvement:** Lean Six Sigma, Continuous Improvement, Process Optimization, Cost Reduction

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## OPEN SOURCE & TECHNICAL CONTRIBUTIONS

**GitHub Profile:** [github.com/wingie](https://github.com/wingie) - 100+ public repositories demonstrating software development expertise - **Computer Vision:** Real-time face detection systems, OCR optimization, image processing applications using OpenCV - **Machine Learning:** EEG signal classification using SVM and LVQ algorithms with Arduino integration and embedded systems - **Mobile Development:** Android applications with advanced computer vision capabilities (58 stars on Android-Restaurant-Menu) - **Embedded Systems:** Camera drivers for embedded Linux, comprehensive embedded programming examples - **Educational Content:** Workshop materials for Android development and OpenCV implementation

**Speaking & Community Leadership** - **Technical speaker** at engineering conferences on team leadership and product development - **Workshop facilitator** for Android development and computer vision at Bangalore Android group - **Open source contributor** focusing on engineering tools and best practices in software development

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## EDUCATION & CERTIFICATIONS

### Bachelor of Technology, Electrical and Electronics Engineering

Vellore Institute of Technology, India

**Professional Certifications & Development** - Engineering Management Certification (2023) - Leadership and Management Skills - Advanced Product Development (Stanford Online, 2024) - Product Strategy and Innovation - Machine Learning for Engineering Leaders (Coursera, 2024) - AI/ML Technical Leadership - Project Management Professional (PMP) - Project Management Methodologies - AWS Certified Solutions Architect - Cloud Computing and Infrastructure

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## LEADERSHIP & COMMUNITY

### Chairman | Taste Before You Waste | Amsterdam

February 2021 – Present - **Lead nonprofit organization** focused on sustainability and food waste reduction demonstrating executive leadership - **Manage strategic direction**, board governance, and stakeholder relationships using strategic planning - **Drive fundraising initiatives** and public advocacy efforts through business development and communication skills - **Coordinate with executive director** to support organizational mission and growth strategy

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## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS & METRICS

**Product Innovation:** Led “Fly Anywhere” from concept to production serving millions of users through product development lifecycle

**Technical Excellence:** Achieved 99.9% uptime while modernizing legacy systems at scale using DevOps practices

**Team Leadership:** Built multiple high-performing engineering teams from ground up using talent development strategies

**Global Impact:** Managed distributed systems serving users across 70+ countries and 43 languages demonstrating scalability

**Strategic Partnerships:** Successfully delivered API integrations with major tech platforms through vendor management

**Innovation Recognition:** Won company-wide hackathon demonstrating rapid prototyping and technical innovation capabilities

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## CORE COMPETENCIES SUMMARY

**Technical Leadership:** Software Engineering • System Architecture • Machine Learning • Cloud Computing • DevOps • Data Engineering

**People Management:** Team Leadership • Cross-functional Collaboration • Mentoring •

Performance Management • Talent Development

**Business Acumen:** Product Development • Go-to-Market Strategy • Stakeholder Management • Project Management • Cost Optimization

**Innovation:** Rapid Prototyping • Technical Innovation • Process Improvement • Digital Transformation • Emerging Technologies