Aaron Korver

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Executive Summary

Highly motivated engineer who sits at the crossroads of engineering and leadership. Works well with others and delivers high quality solutions. Portfolio available at https://github.com/aaronkorver/portfolio

Skills Inventory

- Over **25 years** of experience with programming and Open Source technologies.
- Professional experience with n-tier architecture, **distributed systems**, and messaging services.
- Built **highly scalable systems** capable of handling 10,000+ msg/sec
- Owned technical products running **50 million transactions** a day
- Expert on **API strategy**
- Experienced in **public cloud system design** and architecture (Azure primarily)
- Expert in **automation tools** and techniques.
- Strong **mentoring and coaching abilities**.
- Experience in object-oriented analysis and design.
- Led multiple product-focused teams.
- Experience in **delivering business focused solutions**.
- Certified Microsoft Azure Fundamentals
- Community technology leader and speaker.
- Understands the entire development process, including project planning, systems analysis, technical specification, documentation and quality assurance.
- Experienced in relational database design, complex queries and transactions.
- Solid communication skills.
- Knowledge of testing at the unit, functional, and integration level
- Good exposure to business knowledge of the retail, financial, insurance, mortgage, and healthcare industry.

Industry Experience
Retail, Financial Services, Insurance, Healthcare

Programming Languages
Java, Kotlin, SQL, Scripting languages

Front-end Technologies
Spring MVC, REST, Javascript

Server-side Technologies
Kafka, Akka, Jaeger Tracing, EJB, JMS, JDBC, JNDI, JAAS, Servlets, Hibernate, Spring, Spring Boot, Apache Camel

Relational databases
DB2, Oracle, MSSQL Server, MySQL, Postgres

NoSQL databases
Cassandra, MongoDB, Redis

Web/App Servers
Apache Tomcat, Weblogic, Websphere, Glassfish

Tools
IntelliJ, Gradle, Git, Github, Drone, Maven, Jenkins, Eclipse, Jira

DevOps
Docker, Kubernetes, OpenStack, Azure, Artifcatory

Testing
Junit, Spock, Fitnesse, DBUnit, Watij, Mockito, Selenium

Education & Certifications
BS in Computer Science and Mathematics
Drake University

Certified Scrummaster

Summary of Experience

Professional Experience

Walgreens (March 2022 - Current)

Distinguished Engineer - Digital
- First Distinguished Engineer at Walgreens. Responsible for the engineering culture, toolset, processes of 800+ engineers within the Walgreens Digital (Web+Mobile) area.
- Lead and advise multiple Senior Directors on engineering choices
- Work directly with product on roadmaps for future enhancements to the Digital experience
- Train, teach, mentor the Principal Engineers on new ways of working
- Set technical direction by setting a path of Engineering Excellence and building a Software Community within Walgreens.
- Partner closely with Enterprise Architecture, Security, Cloud Platform teams on solutions for the enterprise.

Optum (October 2018 – March 2022)

Distinguished Engineer (June 2021 - March 2022)
- Provider Portfolio -- Lead multiple scrum teams and architects through system design and engineering best practices for the portfolio.

Senior Principal Engineer (Jan 2020 – May 2021)
- Tech lead (Vanguard) – Leading a team responsible for coaching and consulting of "cloud" best practices. Newly created team, defining processes and guidelines for the coaching staff. Interact across multiple lines of business with cloud strategies. Majority of use in Microsoft Azure, exposure to AWS and GCP.
- Cloud Governance – Review and govern new solutions going to the public cloud. Provide insight to teams for cost savings and architecture of their solutions. Lead oversight for 500 different subscriptions across the enterprise.
- Training – Teaching "Cloud Fundamentals" course. Created technical workshops for teams in the public cloud. Create documentation/patterns for teams to consume regarding public cloud use.
- Community -- Run multiple office hours providing guidance and answers to teams about public cloud use.

Senior Principal Engineer (Oct 2018 – Dec 2019)
- Tech lead/Product Owner. (Stargate) – Lead a team creating the next generation API Gateway for Optum. This replaced a vendor solution and was implemented with Kong API Gateway. Cost savings of $4 million. System serves on average 75 million transactions a day. Set product direction for features.
- API Technical Expert – Created API Standards for the enterprise. Created governance process and automation to enforce API Standards with Open API Spec. Owned technical direction for API Strategy

Target (August 2014 - August 2018)
While at Target I've held two different positions. In addition to these roles, I also was highly active within the internal engineering community.
- I interviewed over 150 people to help with hiring. I represented the company at JavaOne for two years in our booth.
- I held classes to teach and mentor on topics such as Kotlin, Kafka, and Kubernetes.
- I created a social chatbot called "Spotbot" that was worked on by more than 300 different people.
- In seeing a need for cross team sharing I created "Wednesday Tech Lunch" and have held 146 sessions. Talks range from teams sharing something they made, to hosting the creator of Gradle Hans Dockter.
- Organized GitHub training for 300 engineers over five days.
- Gave numerous talks at our internal organized events
- Heavily involved in Tech Brand and helped create www.codewithtarget.com

Principal Engineer (January 2017 - August 2018)

Enterprise Inventory

This project involved aggregating all inventory changes across the Target network into one single source of truth. Data comes from stores, warehouses, 3rd parties. Each system that is integrated is custom. Heavy use of Kafka and Oracle. As Principal, responsible for guiding the five teams involved (one offshore) and coordinating with Product Owners. Also responsible for coordination within the larger supply chain efforts within Target.

Lead Engineer (August 2014 - December 2016)

I worked in Target Digital space on two major projects:

- Ratings and Reviews

This project provided the backend APIs to power all product reviews on Target.com. It was used daily by millions of people shopping for products. Also integrated with syndicated partners for pulling 18 million reviews into the system. Powered with Cassandra and MongoDB.

- Recommendations

Built and designed a recommendations rule override tool. This tool allowed for custom built rules to be inserted into data driven recommendations. Built with Akka.

Independent Consultant (January 2014 - August 2014)

Prime Therapeutics (via Tek Systems) -- Tech Lead, Agile Coach

- Provided advice on technologies for the GuidedHealth project. This included mentoring junior developers, assisting architects with coming up with solutions for Big Data, and helping with source code control techniques.
- Helped coach a team of 20 people on agile practices. Coached on iteration length, retrospectives, estimating techniques, and long term planning strategies.

Solution Design Group (November 2011 – December 2013) - Senior Java Developer

Solution Design Group places contractors on different project throughout the Twin Cities. I was a Senior Java Developer there. While at SDG, I worked on these two projects:

Thomson Reuters FindLaw (June 2013 - Dec 2013)

- Re-Designed the Vendor Management System into small components orchestrated by Apache Camel.
- This system was responsible for sending approx 1000 requests to vendors for content fulfillment each week.
- Mentored two junior developers on the use of Spring and Camel.
- The redesign allowed for faster implementation of new business opportunities.

Healthpartners (Nov 2011 - May 2013)

- Helped finish the project www.yumpower.com after another developer left the team and project. Took it from an emergency state to a released state in one month. Also supported iOS app of the same name.
- Wrote all the backend services for the current http://m.healthpartners.com mobile application. Designed and documented all RESTful services for the iOS myHP app.
- Created SMS query campaign that serves financial data to HP users using a short code and integration with Clickatell SMS services.
- Created SMS push campaign for yumPower that pushes healthy tips to users.
- Created the myPharmacy section of the mobile web experience allowing users to refill prescriptions on their mobile web browsers.

The Clifton Group (January 2010 – November 2011) - Senior Java Developer

Farm Bureau Financial Services (July 2007 – December 2009) - Application Consultant

Source Allies (May 2005 – July 2007) - Software Engineer

Source Allies is a contracting company. While here I helped mentor employees on agile techniques. During this time I mainly worked with the following clients.

- Iowa Foundation for Medical Care (June 2006 – April 2007)
- Citigroup Mortgage (June 2005 – June 2006)

Fiserv Insurance Solutions (May 2000 – May 2005) - Software Engineer

Drake University (Sept 1999-May 2001) - Teaching Assistant

Patents held

Korver, Aaron. Method and system for tracking inventory
U.S. Patent 11,367,046, filed Feb 19, 2018, and issued June 21, 2022

Community Involvement

Minneapolis Skyway Symposium Co-Organizer
- I help run and organize this meetup, approximately 2200 members

Minneapolis Skyway Symposium Presenter - June 2017
- Presented "[What's new in Java 8](#)"

Minnesota Agile Experience – April 2012
- "Agile Games for Team" was presented to the group of about 15 people, for 1 hour 30 min.

Ignite Minneapolis Presenter
- Presented in [Ignite #4](#) in front of approximately 500 people live and streaming online.
- Presented in [Ignite #6](#) in front of approximately 800 people live and streaming online.

Central Iowa Java User Group Presenter – November 2005
- Presented the "Testing Toolbox" to approx 30 people (1.5 hours). The presentation involved demos of 20 different open source testing tools and a short evaluation of each.

Central Iowa Java User Group Presenter – January 2007
- Gave a lighting talk (15 min) about an overview of Scrum.

Central Iowa Java User Group Presenter – February 2007
- Shared with the group a Fitnesse fixture that hooked together Watij and Fitnesse. (30 min).

Iowa Code Camp Presenter – June 2009
- "Agile Games for Teams" was presented at the Iowa Code Camp at Cedar Rapids. This presentation was about games a team could use to teach agile concepts.

Iowa Agile User Group Member (Group creation – December 2009)
- I've participated in almost all of the agile user group meetings that have been held. I've given a demo of my tracking spreadsheets for the group.

Central Iowa Java User Group Leader (January 2007 – December 2009)
- I am in charge of the meetings for the Central Iowa Java Users Group. This involves finding presenters, arranging locations and contacting sponsors.
- Increased the membership on the mailing list from 70 to 130 and increased meeting participation by 10%. Also increased the traffic on the mailing list by 200%.