Andrew Nicholson

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Personal Mission Statement

To advocate for best practices that serve the customer, to use my expertise to solve complex and strategic problems, to own and drive product success, to mentor and help others achieve their goals, and ultimately to make lives better with the products my team creates.

Work Experience

Founding Engineer / Staff Software Engineer at Rula Mental Health • *12/2021 - 03/2024, remote*

- Joined as engineer #3
- Built **foundational services and products**, including a resilient email system, partnership integrations, and web portal products for both patients and therapists
- Drove **cross-functional initiatives** including a process to develop an **SDLC** and an **org-wide reference architecture** based on Domain-Driven Design, Event-Driven Architecture, and Command/Query Responsibility Segregation
- Implemented a Transactional Outbox and Durable Workflow Execution Environment to provide the team with **solutions to widespread distributed systems problems**

Staff Software Engineer at Sift • *01/2021 - 12/2021, remote*

- Joined through the **2021 acquisition of ChargeBack**
- Designed and **led development of a new data architecture** to enable flexible product support for customers, **unblocking business scalability**
- **Worked closely with product managers** to shape our low-code business rules platform

Senior Full-Stack React/Ruby on Rails Engineer and Team Lead at Spatial Networks • *03/2020 - 12/2020, remote*

- **Led development** and **took ownership over project success** for a **strategic low-code platform** feature using **Ruby on Rails, React, and Postgresql**
- Provided **technical leadership** and **mentorship** in the company's **product-focused** engineering team
- Advocated for industry **best practices** around **DevSecOps** and **drove a cultural shift** to adopt new processes in line with those best practices, including **Kanban, automated testing, and CI/CD**

Full-Stack React/C# Engineer at Pluralsight, LLC • *11/2018 – 11/2019 in Salt Lake City, UT and remote*

- Joined throught the **2019 acquisition of GitPrime, Inc.**
- **Delivered high-visibility, strategic integration** between GitPrime and Pluralsight
- Engineered web applications with **TypeScript, React, Redux, C#, and PostgreSQL**

Full-Stack React/Ruby on Rails Developer at SciMed Solutions, Inc. • *02/2016 – 11/2018 in Durham, NC and remote*

- Engineered web applications for clients in agricultural and medical research
- Consistently **delivered high-quality software** for SciMed's biggest clients using **React, Redux, Ruby on Rails, and SQL databases**

Full-Stack JEE Developer at Red Hat, Inc. • *08/2013 – 06/2015 in Richmond, VA and remote*

- Contributed to **high priority projects**
- **Mentored** junior developers

Software Developer Intern at Noblis, Inc. • *06/2012 – 01/2013 in Danville, VA and remote*

- **Led development** of a Grails web application that displayed results from computations run on a Cray XMT2 supercomputer

Technical Expertise

TypeScript, Ruby on Rails, Node, React, AMQP, Kafka, Postgres, AWS, CI/CD

Personal Projects

Systemicity Blog • *06/2024 - present*

- Technical blog that aims to simplify complex topics in distributed systems and software organizations

Camsizes.com • *01/2020 - present*

- Rock climbing gear comparison tool, used by many climbers to compare climbing cams made by different manufacturers

Education

University of Virginia, College of Arts and Sciences • *08/2009 – 05/2013, Charlottesville, VA*
BA in Computer Science and Philosophy