Kenneth Strong
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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

I'm a seasoned Software Engineer with 9+ years of experience building scalable, high-performance web applications and backend systems. I've worked across the stack with a strong focus on system architecture, API design, and developer experience. My strengths include turning complex business requirements into clean, maintainable code and leading development efforts from planning through production. I thrive in fast-paced environments, shipping features at scale and mentoring junior engineers.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Languages: JavaScript (Node.js, TypeScript), Python, Go, SQL, Bash
Frameworks: React, Express, Next.js, Flask, Django
Cloud & DevOps: AWS (Lambda, ECS, S3, CloudFormation), Docker, Terraform, GitHub Actions
Databases: PostgreSQL, MySQL, MongoDB, Redis
Testing: Jest, Mocha, Cypress, Pytest
Tools: Git, Postman, Figma, Datadog, Sentry, Jira, Grafana

EXPERIENCE

Senior Software Engineer

Mercury Labs, Remote
2021 – Present

- Architected and led development of a microservices-based reporting engine used by Fortune 500 clients, reducing query latency by 60%.

- Designed and implemented a secure OAuth2-based authentication system used across 6 internal tools and 3 public APIs.

- Spearheaded migration from monolithic Node.js app to a containerized, service-oriented architecture using Docker and ECS.

- Mentored 5+ engineers through code reviews, pair programming, and onboarding sessions.

- Regularly collaborated with PMs and designers to define technical requirements and scope features.

Full-Stack Engineer

Finovia (Fintech SaaS), New York, NY
2017 – 2021

- Built and maintained core components of Finovia's user dashboard and payment processing engine using React, Node.js, and PostgreSQL.

- Created a customer-facing API with detailed documentation and SDKs, adopted by over 50 client partners.

- Integrated Plaid and Stripe APIs to support ACH transfers and real-time transaction tracking.

- Drove performance tuning initiatives, reducing cold start times by 40% on key serverless functions.

- Played key role in implementing GDPR-compliant data handling and user consent flows.

Software Engineer

Nimble Metrics, Chicago, IL
2015 – 2017

- Developed interactive dashboards using D3.js and Flask for real-time analytics visualizations.

- Implemented backend services and RESTful APIs supporting 30K+ daily active users.

- Improved unit test coverage to 85% and helped introduce CI/CD best practices across teams.

- Wrote internal tools to automate data import pipelines and error reconciliation jobs.

EDUCATION

B.S. in Computer Science
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Graduated 2015

PROJECTS & HACKATHONS

DevOps CLI Tool – Built a command-line interface in Go for managing AWS deployments across dev, staging, and production.
AI-Powered Job Tracker – Created a personal web app to scrape and rank job listings using OpenAI embeddings + PostgreSQL full-text search.

CERTIFICATIONS

- AWS Certified Developer – Associate

- Advanced React Patterns (Frontend Masters)

- Google Cloud Fundamentals