BRAD BIRD BSc

Senior Software Engineer

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Available Now
Open to remote or hybrid roles across all industries

Personal Summary

A highly skilled and results-driven Senior Software Engineer with over 15 years of experience delivering innovative solutions across more than 10 industries. Known for bridging the gap between structured corporate environments and dynamic startup ecosystems, bringing a versatile skill set and deep technical expertise to every project. Proficient in modernizing legacy systems, developing greenfield applications, and leading high-performing teams to deliver scalable, high-quality software that aligns with business objectives. Committed to continuous learning and adaptability to excel in fast-paced, evolving environments.

Working History

Smart Bird Home Automations as Director (Own startup)
August 2024 – September 2024

With a passion for smart home automation, Brad founded Smart Bird Home Automations to provide homeowners with energy-efficient, secure, and seamlessly integrated smart home solutions. The business focused on designing and installing systems that worked across multiple brands, ensuring a future-proof and user-friendly experience. While the industry was highly competitive and the business did not scale as anticipated, it provided valuable experience in entrepreneurship, customer engagement, and technical problem-solving.
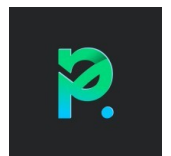
Skills: CCTV/IoT Installs, IoT Programming, Home Assistant, NodeJS, ReactJS, Docker

Paytently as Head of Platform & Senior Software Engineer (Founding member)
June 2023 – July 2024

Established a robust DevOps observability platform, incorporating PagerDuty to ensure rapid incident response with a weekly on-call rotation. Achieved an unprecedented 99.999% uptime for the payments platform, ensuring uninterrupted service and compliance with strict operational requirements.

Skills: AWS, GitLab, Terraform, Bash Scripting, DAPR Event Driven Architecture, Docker

Hargreaves Lansdown as Senior Software Engineer Contractor
June 2022 – June 2023

Pioneered the adoption of a microservices architecture in Node.js, a first for the organization's in-house projects. Delivered a robust abstraction layer to shield databases from direct exposure, significantly enhancing security and reducing the risk of data breaches. This initiative set a new standard for scalable and secure application design within the company.

Skills: AWS, GitLab, Terraform, Express, NodeJS, Typescript, JavaScript, Docker, Micro Services

Itriom as Senior Software Engineer Contractor
March 2022 – May 2022

Successfully delivered a minimum viable product within three months, enabling the client to present a fully functional solution to shareholders. This milestone demonstrated a rapid yet reliable development process, aligning technical capabilities with critical business objectives.

Skills: React, GraphQL, MongoDB, AWS, Docker, Cypress

Nature England (GovUK – Defra) as Senior Software Engineer Contractor

March 2022 – May 2022

Contributed to the early stages of a greenfield project for wildlife licensing, focusing on building foundational systems and supporting development efforts for future scalability.

Skills: Micro Services, Azure, HapiJS, Typescript, NodeJS, Jenkins, Cypress

Untapped Ltd as Senior Software Engineer Contractor

March 2022 – May 2022

Transformed a legacy monolithic MVC C# system into a modern, decoupled architecture, resulting in a 40% performance improvement and significantly reduced system complexity. By implementing a backend API and frontend application, the new system facilitated seamless third-party integrations and enhanced maintainability for future growth.

Skills: React, Typescript, NodeJS, Docker, Cypress Testing, AWS, Cucumber

Penta Consulting as Senior Software Engineer Contractor

March 2022 – May 2022

Led the training and mentoring of the client's junior development team, transitioning them from theoretical knowledge to practical application. This transformation enabled the finance platform to progress from minimal feature output to consistently delivering 2–3 new features per sprint cycle, significantly improving productivity.

Skills: MongoDB, NodeJS, NestJS, TypeScript, React, Micro Services, Kafka Event Driven Architecture, Mentoring

Veterinary Medicines Directorate (GovUK – Defra) as Senior Software Engineer Contractor

March 2018 – January 2021

Designed and implemented the UK government's medicine import programme from the ground up following Brexit, addressing compliance requirements for itemizing medicines. Delivered the fully functional system within 12 months, meeting complex regulatory demands, and provided extensive training to ensure the internal team could independently maintain and enhance the system post-delivery.

Skills: Angular, MongoDB, NodeJS, HapiJS, Jenkins, AWS, Kubernetes, Cucumber

Esure Group PLC as Senior Software Engineer

October 2018 – March 2019

Delivered a mid-term adjustment facility, empowering customers to update policies online without relying on call centers. This innovation streamlined customer support operations, allowing the same resources to focus on higher-priority claims calls and improving overall efficiency.

Skills: Angular, NodeJS, NestJS, Worldpay, Travis CI, Cucumber, Jest

Extended working history can be provided on request

Technical Skills

Programming Languages
TypeScript, JavaScript, Python, Bash Scripting, C#

Frameworks and Libraries

React, React Native, NestJS, Node.js, Express, GraphQL, Hapi.js, Capacitor

Databases
MongoDB, MySQL

Cloud Platforms
AWS, Azure

DevOps and CI/CD Tools
Docker, Kubernetes, Terraform, Jenkins, GitLab, PagerDuty, Travis CI

Testing and Quality Assurance
Jest, Cucumber, Cypress

Other Tools and Technologies
Event-Driven Architectures (Kafka, DAPR), Microservices Architecture, CI/CD Orchestration, UX/UI Design

Other Skills

- Get it done mentality
- Excellent people skills
- Requirements gathering and analysis
- Good time management
- Live demonstration skills
- Quick to learn new technologies

Interests

- Home automation and IoT systems
- PC Gaming
- OffSec Security

Education

University of Hertfordshire
2010 – 2013

BSc in Computer Science with an AI specialisation.

West Herts College
2007 – 2010

Distinction grade National Diploma in IT with Networking specialisation

Cisco for CCNA Discovery
2007 – 2010

Routing and switching in enterprise. Designing and supporting computer networks. Networking at Small-Medium business or ISP's.