

# Brian Hilst

Software Consultant / Architect / Engineer

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## CONTACT

Purposeful Software, LLC  
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## PROFILE

I am a versatile, full-stack, software engineer and architect. My specialty is responsive web and mobile applications running on an AWS backend. I have experience on a wide range of front and backend technology stacks. Please see my full skill set below for more information.

I own and operate Purposeful Software LLC, a Washington licensed and insured business.

Purposeful Software is dedicated to bringing web or mobile application visions to life. I bring a unique blend of passion and experience to every project, whether you are a small non-profit organization, a Fortune 500 company, or somewhere in-between. I take the time to understand your needs and determine how best to deliver it within your budget and timeframe. My depth and breadth of experience will help choose the optimal approach for your unique product and provide expert assistance from design to deployment.

## WORK

### GovGig.us - Poulsbo, WA

Software Architect and Principal Developer • 2021 – Present

*GovGig is new job and online training platform for federal construction contractors providing job posting and applicant tracking services.*

Working with my partners at HeroicDevelopment.com, I am an owner and principal developer for this startup, responsible for design and development of a React web app and backend using AWS Amplify.

**Tech stack:** React JS/Typescript, AWS Amplify, AppSync, DynamoDB, Cognito, S3, SES, SNS

### FunGives.com - Bainbridge Island, WA

Software Architect and Lead Developer • 2021 – Present

*FunGives is an online fundraising platform providing a unique gamified approach to fundraising.*

I am the owner and primary developer for this startup, responsible for design and development of a React web app and backend using AWS Amplify.

**Tech stack:** React JS/Typescript, AWS Amplify, AppSync, DynamoDB, Cognito, S3, SES, SNS

### HazmatAndRescue.com - Tacoma, WA

Software Architect and Lead Developer • 2020 – Present

*Hazmat & Rescue provides online hazardous materials response training courses to fire departments and other agencies.*

Working with my partners at HeroicDevelopment.com, I am the architect and primary developer for this startup, responsible for design and development of a React web app and backend using AWS Amplify.

**Tech stack:** React JS/Typescript, AWS Amplify, AppSync, DynamoDB, Cognito, S3, SES, SNS, Stripe

## **RetirementBudgetCalculator.com – Washington**

Software Architect and Primary Developer • 2019 – Present

*Retirement Budget Calculator can help you estimate your budget, life expectancy, net worth, taxes, withdrawal strategies, Roth conversions and ultimately answer the question: can I retire?*

I am the architect and primary developer for this application, responsible for design and development of a React web app and backend using AWS Amplify.

**Tech stack:** React JS/Typescript, AWS Amplify, AppSync, DynamoDB, Cognito, S3, SES, SNS, Stripe

## **SecureStatus.co – Poulsbo, WA**

Software Architect and Senior Developer • 2019 – Present

*SecureStatus.co is a startup providing a secure messaging platform for CPAs and other professionals.*

I am an owner and the primary developer for this startup. I am responsible for the design and development of a React web app and backend using AWS Amplify. This rapid development platform has enabled a product launch in under 2 months.

**Tech stack:** React JS/Typescript, AWS Amplify, AppSync, DynamoDB, Cognito, S3, SES, SNS, Stripe

## **SnapGig Inc – Spokane, WA**

Software Architect and Senior Developer • 2018 – Present

*SnapGig is a bootstrapped startup and marketplace for the gig economy.*

I was hired to design and develop SnapGig's primary product, a responsive web app that serves as a marketplace to connect service providers with buyers. I also am building the product's mobile version in React Native (currently in development).

**Tech stack:** React JS/Typescript, AWS Amplify, AppSync, DynamoDB, Cognito, S3, SES, SNS

## **Sears Home Services - Seattle, WA**

Software Architect and Senior Developer • 2015 - 2018

*Sears Home Services provides appliance repair, home improvement, and maintenance services to 7M customers every year.*

In this role I designed and built multiple iOS apps in Swift and Ionic used by Sears Home Services' 7000+ field technicians for routing, navigation, service order management, accessing service manuals, and other functionality. I also built a Java web application that lets internal staff manage the mobile product, adjust pricing, and access field data.

**Tech stack:** Swift, Angular, Ionic, Java, Spring Framework, AWS, PostgreSQL

## **SamePage Health - Seattle, WA**

Lead Architect/Developer • 2014 - 2015

*SamePage Health was an early stage angel-funded startup that provided a SaaS for professionals treating patients with multiple behavioral health and medical conditions.*

I served in a de facto Director of Development role managing a team of two full-time developers in building responsive web-based tools and REST APIs for AngularJS and mobile clients.

**Tech stack:** Ruby on Rails, AngularJS, Postgres, AWS, REST APIs

## **Netmotion Wireless - Seattle, WA**

Senior Consultant • 2013 - 2014

*Netmotion Software provides products and services to support mobile workforces.*

At Netmotion I designed and implemented a mapping web app that displayed mobile device connectivity and tracking data used to troubleshoot mobile workforces (e.g. police, fire departments). This product was delivered and released on schedule.

**Tech stack:** ASP.NET, Javascript, Bing Maps, REST, C#, MySQL

## **Avalara Inc - Seattle, WA**

Chief Architect / Principal Software Developer • 2004 - 2013

*Avalara (NYSE: AVLR) provides a SaaS product for automated tax compliance. The company went public in 2018.*

At Avalara I was a member of the founding team, serving as a software architect and the principal developer of their industry-leading SaaS product that handled over a million transactions per day. I rebuilt the initial prototype VB.NET SaaS product for scale in C# with additional SDKs for .NET and Java. I also had hiring and management responsibility for a distributed team in the US and India. My final role at Avalara focused on leading development of the tax content management system that managed geospatial, tax rate, and rule data for the US and EU.

**Tech stack:** .NET, C#, Java, Microsoft SQL Server

### **Rainwave Technologies - Bellevue, WA**

Owner / Principal Software Developer • 1996 - 2004

*Rainwave was my independent technical consulting firm.*

My project focus during this time included building web and desktop clients for companies that included Autonomy Interwoven and FrontOffice Technologies.

### **Adobe Systems / Aldus Corp - Seattle, WA**

Principal Software Developer • 1990 - 1996

*Adobe (NASDAQ: ADBE) is a Fortune 500 software provider.*

At Adobe I was a Team Lead for both Core Technologies and Pagemaker Graphics, contributing to the development of multiple products including PageMaker and other desktop graphics applications.

## **SKILLS**

### **LANGUAGES**

TypeScript, JavaScript, Java, Swift, Ruby, C#

### **FRAMEWORKS/LIBRARIES**

React, Angular, Node.js, Spring, Play, Rails, .NET, Stripe, Material-UI, Bootstrap

### **DATABASE**

DynamoDB, PostgreSQL, Microsoft SQL Server, MySQL

### **CLOUD**

AWS (Amplify, AppSync, DynamoDB, RDS, Lambda, Elastic Beanstalk/EC2, S3, Cognito, Route53...), Serverless Framework

### **MOBILE**

Swift, React Native, Ionic

### **TOOLS**

JetBrains WebStorm, IntelliJ IDEA, XCode, Eclipse, RubyMine, Visual Code & Visual Studio

### **TESTING**

Jest, Cypress, Jasmine, Mocha, JUnit, BrowserStack, Postman

### **DEVOPS**

AWS Amplify, Docker, Codeship, Gradle, Maven, Jenkins, Ansible,  
Papertrail, PagerDuty, Splunk, New Relic, Google Analytics

## **COLLABORATION**

GitHub, Jira, Trello, Slack, LucidChart, Google Docs

## EXPERTISE

### ARCHITECTURE

I have designed commercial software and systems from small business to enterprise applications scalable to millions of transactions per day. I am a proponent of clean architecture, micro-services, and on-demand, scalability using cloud services such as AWS Lambda.

### PROJECT LEADERSHIP

I have hired and led teams ranging from small startups to large, globally distributed development teams.

### DOMAINS

Mapping, Data-visualization, Workforce automation, Service Marketplaces, SaaS, Document management, E-commerce, Transaction/sales tax, Health care

## EDUCATION

### UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS

*Bachelor of Science in Computer Science*

A broad computer science foundation with specialization in algorithms, artificial intelligence, and computer graphics.

### CONTINUING EDUCATION

*Conferences, online courses, meetups, and books*

Online courses in React, Angular, Typescript, iOS/Swift, Java  
Recent Books: Clean Architecture by Robert Martin and Start Small, Stay Small by Rob Walling.

## OTHER

### VOLUNTEER

*Volunteer software development for non-profits*

*Mentor for robotics team and AP Computer Science*

*Volunteer for organizations such as Young Life, Summer in the USA, Bainbridge Youth Orchestra, KidsUp! Community Playground, Rebuilding Together*