

Cesar Gomez

Senior Ruby on Rails Engineer

Languages: Spanish (native), English (professional)

Location: Colima, Mexico

Availability: Remote / Hybrid

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Professional Summary

Senior Ruby on Rails Engineer with 12+ years of experience architecting, scaling, and modernizing backend systems across high-growth SaaS, fintech, and communications platforms. Deep expertise in distributed systems, service decomposition, performance optimization, and upgrading legacy codebases. Known for reducing operational bottlenecks, improving system reliability, enforcing engineering standards, mentoring teams, and delivering stable, well-tested software. Strong collaborator with experience building multi-service platforms, CI/CD automation, and developer tooling in fast-paced product environments.

Technical Skills

Backend: Ruby, **Ruby on Rails**, Sinatra, REST APIs, Microservices, Nest.js, Kafka, SQS, Redis

Frontend: **JavaScript**, React, Hotwire, Turbo, Stimulus, Tailwind, HTML, HAML, CSS, SASS

Testing: RSpec, Minitest, Capybara, TDD/BDD, Static Analysis

Databases: **PostgreSQL**, MySQL, DynamoDB, ElasticSearch

DevOps: AWS, **Docker**, CI/CD (GitLab CI), Heroku, NGINX

Architecture: Domain Driven Design, Layered Architecture, Rails Engines, Packwerk, Performance Profiling

Tools: **Git**, Vim, Tmux, Observability & Monitoring

Education

Bachelor's Degree in Systems Engineering

Instituto Tecnologico de Colima

2007-2013

Professional Experience

Technical Lead — SchoolStatus

(EdTech · K-12 Communications)

2023-Present

- Led the design and evolution of a multi-channel communication platform (SMS, voice) used by thousands of teachers and parents; built with Kafka, Rails, and distributed services.
- Scaled SMS throughput from **1,200/min → 20,000/min** via Kafka queues and Karafka gem.
- Upgraded a critical legacy Rails system and integrated it into the new Kafka architecture.
- Reduced onboarding from days to hours by automating A2P 10DLC, campaign registration, and Twilio/Bandwidth workflows using Rails.
- Built a Nest.js data ingestion pipeline (DB, SFTP, CSV) syncing district staff across products.
- Created a production-like Docker environment simulating service communication and Kafka brokers.
- Raised legacy coverage from **0% → 75%** and enforced **90%+** coverage on new Rails services.
- Automated GitHub releases and changelogs through conventional commits.
- Developed dashboards and tools to manage Twilio/Bandwidth profiles at district scale.

Senior Software Engineer — Donorbox

(Nonprofit · Donations · Payments)

2022-2023

- Developed a cross-device donation widget using Web Components and vanilla JavaScript.
- Integrated Stripe and PayPal with currency- and country-aware routing.
- Replaced flaky system tests with Cuprite and strengthened the backend test suite for the Rails API.

Senior Software Engineer — Stadium Goods	(E-commerce · Marketplace)	2021-2022
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implemented ElasticSearch for high-traffic search and catalog flows, reducing DB load in the Rails API. Shipped the company's first Rails Engine to establish clean domain boundaries. Built an ETL pipeline for third-party order synchronization, improving data reliability. Migrated Webpacker → Importmaps, simplifying builds and deployments. Improved GitLab CI by removing redundant tests and increasing parallelization. Built real-time features using Rails features like Hotwire and ActionCable. 		
Senior Ruby on Rails Engineer — Michelada.io		2019-2021
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delivered features and improved systems across multiple client products. Refactored legacy systems and modernized Rails versions and frontend tooling. Enhanced CI reliability and introduced consistent engineering standards. 		
Client Project: Curacubby	(EdTech · Billing)	2020-2021
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased test coverage from 60% → 86% across billing and enrollment systems. Upgraded Rails 4 → Rails 6 and improved performance and tooling. Added parallel tests, static analysis, and CI optimizations. Built dashboards and modular Rails Engines. 		
Client Project: Kueski	(Fintech · Fraud Detection)	2019-2020
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Built a risk-scoring microservice improving fraud detection accuracy. Integrated scoring with core apps using strong API contracts. Improved documentation and engineering standards. 		
Ruby on Rails Engineer — Tangosource		2013-2018
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promoted from Junior → Mid → Senior; led multiple client projects. Modernized architecture and introduced engineering standards for Rails. Built CI/CD pipelines, monitoring tools, and performance improvements. 		
Client Project: Prepaid2Cash	(Fintech · Prepaid Cards)	2017-2019
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Led backend development for a prepaid card processing platform. Integrated Sift for fraud detection, reducing false positives. Built features while reducing technical debt. Collaborated with cross-functional teams to improve workflows. 		
Client Project: Orbridge	(EdTech · Student Travel)	2013-2016
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Migrated Rails 3 → Rails 4, improving performance and stability. Moved infrastructure from Rackspace → AWS. Implemented monitoring, logging, and automated backups. Produced documentation and architectural guidelines for teams. 		