Claude Houle

Senior Java Developer & Backend Architect

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Profile

Backend developer with 23+ years of experience building enterprise Java systems, microservices architectures, and high-throughput data platforms. Deep expertise in Spring ecosystem, database optimization, and distributed systems. Proven track record delivering mission-critical backends for financial services, travel, and manufacturing — with a focus on reliability, scalability, and team leadership.

Key Accomplishments

- Architected and delivered the Ibiza travel platform rebuild at Accovia — Java/Spring/Hibernate backend serving major travel operators, delivered on time after critical client recovery

- Built backend services for 8D Technologies' Solstice platform — Java system processing real-time events from Bixi bike-sharing kiosks deployed across cities worldwide

- Designed backend architecture for CAE's pilot training platform at Spiria — Spring Boot APIs, data modeling, and integration strategies supporting aviation compliance requirements

- Built core infrastructure services at Mediagrif adopted across multiple e-commerce product teams — reusable data access layers, service components, and API patterns

Technical Skills

Backend Expertise

Languages: Java (expert), Kotlin, SQL, TypeScript, Python
Frameworks: Spring Boot, Spring Security, Hibernate/JPA, REST APIs, Microservices
Data: PostgreSQL, MySQL, Oracle, DB2, Redis, ActiveMQ

Architecture & DevOps

Architecture: Domain-Driven Design, CQRS, Event Sourcing, API Design, System Integration
CI/CD: Docker, Kubernetes, Jenkins, GitLab CI, GitHub Actions
Testing: JUnit, Mockito, Integration Testing, TDD, Contract Testing
Gen AI: Claude integration (code & test acceleration)

Leadership & Methodologies

Leadership: Mentorship, Code Reviews, Technical Documentation, Onboarding
Methods: Agile (Scrum/Kanban), TDD, Continuous Integration
Spoken: French and English (fully bilingual)

Professional Experience

Poka Inc.

Technical Architect

Technical architect for a connected worker platform serving 200,000+ DAU. Designed REST API contracts and data synchronization strategies bridging frontend and backend teams.

- API Architecture: Designed REST API contracts enabling seamless interoperability between mobile clients and backend microservices — adopted as the standard across frontend and backend teams

- Cross-Team Standards: Established shared engineering standards, code review practices, and API conventions across frontend and backend development teams

- Data Synchronization: Architected data sync strategies for offline-first mobile clients — ensuring consistency and reliability across distributed services

- Team Onboarding: Trained 20 developers with custom curriculum covering architecture patterns and best practices — operational within 3 months

Appcom

2019 — 2021

Lead Mobile Developer

Led technical architecture and API integration across 15+ client projects in healthcare, media, and retail sectors.

- Component Libraries: Designed shared component libraries and architectural patterns adopted across multiple project teams

- API Integration: Led integration efforts with various backend systems — established patterns for error handling, caching, and offline support

- Technical Mentorship: Coached developers through code reviews and knowledge-sharing sessions on architecture and design patterns

Spiria Digital

2013 — 2019

Software Architect, Senior Developer

Solution architect for enterprise client engagements. Led backend architecture design, API contracts, and data modeling for complex multi-tier systems.

- CAE PreStudy: Designed backend architecture with Spring Boot, RESTful APIs, and data persistence layer for aviation pilot training

- Acosta SLTouch: Architected Node.js backend services and data aggregation pipelines for retail analytics platform

- Skillable: Delivered backend services for Progressive Web App micro-learning platform using TypeScript and Node.js

- Solution Architecture: Translated business requirements into API contracts, data models, and integration strategies

8D Technologies
2009 — 2013

Back-End Java Developer → iOS Developer

Backend engineer for urban mobility systems (Bixi). Built event-driven Java services processing real-time data from bike-sharing kiosks deployed across major cities.

- Event-Driven Services: Built Java services for Solstice using event-driven architecture — real-time transaction processing, station state management, and availability APIs
- Data Pipelines: Designed high-throughput pipelines processing telemetry from solar-powered POS kiosks (London, NYC) — event sourcing for station state tracking and availability
- Full-Stack Transition: Transitioned to iOS development, bringing backend expertise that bridged system layers and improved API design

Accovia
2007 — 2009

Back-End Java Developer — Architecture Team

- Platform Rebuild: Rebuilt Ibiza travel platform with Java/Spring/Hibernate after critical client recovery — service architecture, data access patterns

Compuware Montreal
2005 — 2007

Java Consultant (Morgan Stanley)

- Mainframe Migration: Libra project — migrated COBOL batch processing and data pipelines to Java/DB2 with event-driven integration patterns; financial compliance, globally distributed team

Mediagrif
2003 — 2005

Java Developer — Infrastructure Team

- Core Services: Built core backend services and shared infrastructure patterns adopted by multiple e-commerce product teams

Education

Computer Science Technology *Cégep Édouard-Montpetit, Longueuil, QC*
2003

Three-year practice-oriented diploma covering C, C++, Java, SQL, Linux, and applied computing.

Capstone project: End-to-end development of an e-commerce website for an SMB.