Christopher Little-Savage, Head of Engineering

I'm a technical leader with a passionate insistence on development best practices. I want to build amazing tools that make the world a better place.

Skills

Technical Leadership
Software Lifecycle
Product Strategy
"Big" Data
AWS

TypeScript (React/Node)
Technical Communication
Paying Attention

Work Experience

2021 - Current

Head of Engineering, PowerX (London, Remote) Lead Software Engineer, PowerX (London, Remote)

As the first engineering hire, I laid the technical foundations for the current iteration of the PowerX platform. I had full authority over evaluating new technologies and maintaining a technical roadmap to carefully balance pace of innovation against long-term maintenance requirements.

As the team grew, my responsibilities increased to cover the full lifecycle of software delivery from stakeholder engagement through to quality assurance and operational monitoring. I quickly assimilated knowledge of site power electronics, allowing me to bridge the gap between commercial and technical teams.

2020 - 2021

Software Innovation Engineer, GSMA (London, Remote)

Managing an international team of six external and internal developers, I was fully responsible for the delivery of technical solutions to the problem of global financial inclusion. My approach was marked by thoughtful roadmap planning and intelligent system architecture, and by an insistence on high-quality testing, documentation and automation through CI/CD.

As well as this managerial work, I was also involved in practical coding work across front and back-end on a serverless AWS stack - especially in the early prototype stages of each project.

2018 - 2019

Founder / CTO, Tyro (Uganda)

I started Tyro to tackle the technical skills gap in Uganda. I combined a unique curriculum of modern development skills with a collaborative Agile workflow which allowed our apprentices to work on commercial projects with very limited practical experience.

I was directly involved in the recruitment of a team of nine local developers of mixed abilities, and was responsible for continuously monitoring their learning and development alongside making technical contributions on more advanced projects.

2016 - 2017

Entrepreneur First, Technical Co-Founder

As part of Entrepreneur First's EF7 cohort, I founded an AI-driven platform for optimising and expanding chatbots' dialogue repertoires. Eventually realising that our product had little commercial appeal, I joined another team to build and scale an AI mortgage advice platform for both mortgage brokers and retail consumers.

2016 - 2021

MVP Consultant, Self-employed

Using my expertise in rapid product development, I have been able to advise and assist in the delivery of proofs of concept and minimum viable products for startups around the world.

Caulibox (2020)

Sustainable Takeaway App

Oversaw external implementation, monitored cloud deployment and developed technical product strategy.

Century Tech (2019)

Education E-commerce Portal

Provided custom development, taming an overfull feature request list by integrating 3rd-party services against a very tight deadline.

Lendingblock (2018)

Cryptocurrency Trading Platform

Led a team of four remote Polish developers, overseeing backlog management, code review and training.

Story (2017)

Education & Digital CV Platform

Produced research reports and PoCs using blockchain technology, and guided technical strategy.

Predina (2016)

Automotive Safety Dashboard

Full-stack MVP development of a sophisticated analytics dashboard.

Education & Certifications

2020

AWS Certified Developer

Wanting to consolidate and validate my understanding of modern systems architecture, I took two days of self-study to pass this challenging AWS exam. My final mark was over 97% on a scale normalized for difficulty.

2015 - 2016

University of Cambridge, MEng Advanced Computer Science, Distinction

I took courses covering Programming Language Usability, Functional Programming, Security, Data-Processing Systems and Machine Learning. My final dissertation looked at building a hybrid graph database aiming to bridge the performance gap with relational databases.

2012 - 2016

University of Cambridge, BA Computer Science, 1st Class

For my undergraduate dissertation, I designed and implemented a novel type-inference system for JavaScript, and accompanying compiler to protect typed JavaScript from unchecked code. I went on to present this research at an international conference on functional programming.

Languages

English

French

Native

Native

Spanish

Swahili

Conversational

Barely Intelligible